The German Tribune

Hamburg, 12 August 1984
Twenty-third year - No. 1144 - By air

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C
ISSN 0016-8858

Bonn, East Berlin, keep in touch – but with different motives

Frankfurter Allgemeine

The undisputed objective behind Bonn's *Deutschlandpolitik* is to improve the living conditions of all those living in a divided Germany.

It therefore also sets out to provide humanitarian relief for Germans living in the GDR. However, it is precisely this intention which makes Bonn's intra-German policy such a difficult task.

As part of its self-image the GDR has always insisted on a strict demarcation between itself and the Federal Republic, hypersensitively rejecting anything which might vaguely resemble an intervention by the latter in the former's internal affairs.

On the other hand, the GDR is for economic reasons obliged to continue its *Westpolitik*, a term used to describe its own intra-German policies, in order to obtain as much economic and political gain from the Federal Republic as possible, whilst keeping the extent of its own political services in return down to a minimum.

Both German states are thus, for varying reasons and with varying interests, obliged to seek dialogue and cooperation.

However, since both states belong to opposing blocs and are situated on the political dividing line between East and West, intra-German relations are highly significant for the international political climate as a whole. In view of the current lack of communication between Washington and Moscow this opens up both opportunities and risks to the German-German dialogue.

East German leader, Erich Honecker, has shown that he intends continuing this dialogue despite the publicly expressed displeasure of the Soviets.

In doing so he can quite rightly point out that this policy course has the unanimous backing of the population of the GDR. However, whether this will weigh in Honecker's favour in Moscow is another matter altogether.

Honecker views his Westpolitik as a policy of peace, the aim of which is to work out concrete steps to ensure that a war will never again break out on German soil.

The Germans in the GDR are hoping that the intra-German policies pursued by Bonn and East Berlin will bring about humanitarian improvements.

Payments by Bonn may improve travel possibilities to, from and in Berlin; the large-scale loans by West German banks may indirectly benefit the GDR population by helping to maintain the standard of living. Yet most East Germans hope that intra-German agreements will lead to relief on a more personal level.

The latest set of improvements in travel possibilities between the two Germanies was a great disappointment to most East Germans. Hopes were high that more would be done by the conservative government in Bonn, which criticised the step-by-step policies of the previous government as being too ineffective.

As it is, however, the only ones to gain by the latest moves with regard to a greater freedom of travel are those who were already privileged in the first place: the pensioners, who can now stay in the West twice as long as was previously the case.

The fact that this section of the population can now also officially visit friends and acquaintances in the West is not regarded as a true improvement. In reality, they have always been able to do so. Furthermore, the Germans in the GDR can only hope that they will in fact benefit from the officially announced "more liberal application of the ruling on the taking along of literature and other printed material" when travelling to the GDR. In the GDR itself hardly anybody really believes that visitors from the West will be allowed to bring along newspapers or magazines anyway.

One of the most disappointing aspects of the latest intra-German agreement is the fact that the circle of persons allowed to travel to the West was not extended. There is unlikely to be *any noticeable increase in traffic in* an East-West direction.

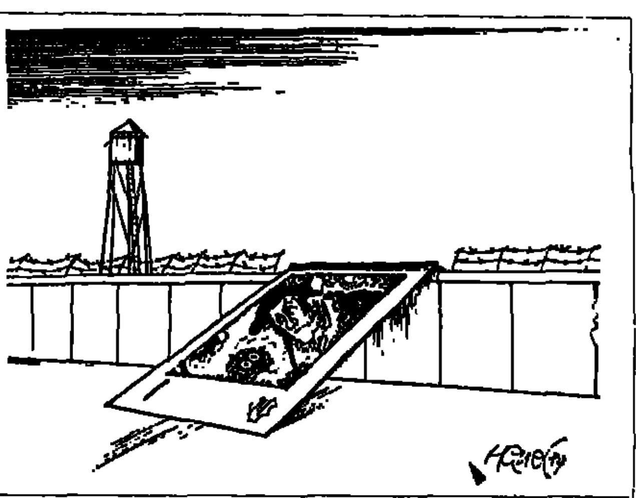
Admittedly, no-one in the GDR seriously expected their leaders to reduce the threshold age, at present the official retirement age, for travel to the West. This would probably have triggered unrest in the factories by splitting the workers into two different categories.

However, many were hoping that the circle of persons able to travel to the West in urgent family matters would be extended, particularly after former West German Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, had negotiated an increase in the grounds for such family visits during negotiations at Werbellinsee.

Many East Germans also expected an

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE



A bridge across the Wall
(Cartoon: Hanel/Lübecker Nachrichten)

(Cartoon: Peter Leger/Hannoversche Allgemeine)

Quid pro quo

Bonn has announced DM950m in credit for East Berlin and East Berlin has announced a slight easing of travel restrictions between East and West. They include:

- A reduction of the compulsory daily currency exchange for pensioners visiting East Germany from DM25 to DM15,
- An extension of the possible period of stay for West Germans, including West Berliners, from 30 to 45 days a year.
- More opportunities for East German pensioners to travel to West Germany and West Berlin. They will be allowed to visit friends and no longer just relatives.
- East German pensioners will be able to stay in the West for 60 days a year instead of 30.
- An increase in the exemption limit for personal items from East Germany to the Federal Republic and West Berlin for a one-day stay to DM100 (from DM20). DM200 is allowed for a period of 4 days,
- A doubling of the period of validity for an extended entry permit for visiting districts in East Germany close to the border from 3 months to 6 months,
- A territorial extension of the entry permit to cover more than three districts in districts in East Germany close to the border,
- An extension of the period of stay for visits to districts in East Germany close to the border from two days (up until 12 p.m. on the day following entry),
- A more lenient application of the regulation on the taking along of literature and other printed material,
- A more lenient approach to the sending of records,
- An allowance to also drive through East German territory with caravans with an axle weight in excess of one ton.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 26 July 1984)

■ WORLD AFFAIRS

Moscow growls at East Berlin's game

Moscow is publicly taking a highly critical attitude over the way relations between Bonn and East Berlin are developing. *Pravda* has been steering clear of any direct criticism of the GDR, mentioning only the new loan from Bonn and the planned visit by Erich Honecker to the Federal Republic in September. But it said East Berlin should beware of delusions over Bonn's motives. Bonn's aim was to weaken the socialist order in the GDR.

Up to now it has been a chilly summer. Troughs of low pressure have been crossing Europe again and again, leaving a menacing storm front in the East and overcast skies in the West.

Despite the weather the two German states are getting ready to stride ahead together along a carefully marked route.

This joint German-German summer ramble, which has been characterised by the relative lack of friction over the past few weeks will be climaxed by the visit by the East German leader Erich Honecker to the Federal Republic at the end of September.

It is no coincidence that the current phase in intra-German relations comes at a time in which world politics is taking a breather.

On the one hand, the serious misjudgement of the Soviet policy towards the West on the issue of medium-range missiles together with the internal inconsistencies of socialist realities have resulted in a sterile immobilism on the part of the Soviet Union. On the other hand, the US election campaign will prevent any substantial change in the icy relationship between the two superpowers this year.

It was this situation which prompted the two German states to forge ahead along their own route.

However, the Kremlin has been following events in Germany with unease.

The shrill propaganda offensive launched over the past few weeks, which recently came to a head speaks volumes.

These attacks have been levelled against both German states. *Pravda* quite openly referring to Honecker in this context. The reprimand reads as follows: does Comrade Honecker fully realise which country it is that he intends visiting?

The Federal Republic, he is warned, is governed by politicians who wish to keep the Germans question an open issue, thus pursuing the aim of "revising the territorial status quo in Europe", and Moscow fears any supposed or real movement on the German question as the devil fears the holy water.

Behind their hands, however, Soviet diplomats divulge another reason for their suspicion. Moscow is afraid that the current development in intra-German relations could lead to a further "destabilisation" of the Eastern bloc as a whole.

It is no secret that the other satellite states have also been tensely following events to see how great Honecker's room to manoeuvre in fact is. Although they realise that East Berlin, as Moscow's most important ally, currently has somewhat more elbow room, new steps in intra-German cooperation serve as a gauge of how much independence other Eastern bloc states can expect themselves.

On the other hand, it is precisely this growing lack on unity in the Eastern bloc which has prevented Moscow from taking any final and authoritative decision on German affairs. The Polish problem is still a long way from bein resolved, and other satellites might also risk answering back and showing protest against their powerful guardian.

The further development of the current basis for transactions with the Federal Republic also involves problems and risks for Honecker himself.

Before his visit in September the GDR regime will have to readjust the general picture presented of the host country. It is not easy to do business and draw up agreements with a "revanchist, missile-loving state in which mass poverty abounds".

Above all, consideration will have to be shown for Moscow's interests. If at all, Honecker will only be allowed to conduct his visit if he accepts certain conditions laid down by Moscow.

At the moment, however, it looks like a *nyet* from Moscow.

In such an eventuality Honecker would make unacceptable demands on protocol to Bonn so as to save face. The visit would fall through as a result.

If the visit does take place Honecker will be obliged to emphatically inform his opposite numbers in talks of the Soviet "standpoint on peace". Lip-service will not be enough. He will be required to actively reflect the Soviet policy towards the West.

Admittedly, the western allies also look on with a certain degree of concern. This was already the case when Adenauer visited Moscow and will be no different this time.

The uninhibited reference made by both German states to their close economic ties may well have contributed towards this mood of concern.

The current stretch of the road must be approach by both sides with great care, for there is a permanent danger of slipping along the way.

Discussion topics are limited. None of the two parties dare venture too far or lose sight immediate objectives. Any other course would be illusionary.

And even if the utmost care is taken and allowance made for atmospherics there is still the danger of being hit by a thunderbolt.

Hans-Jürgen Müller

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 28 July 1984)

Arms in space: optimism that talks will take place

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Talks between the United States and the Soviet Union on the limitation of space arms may well take place as early as September 18, with Vienna as the likely venue.

Although no final decision has yet been reached, it looks as if the two superpowers are poised to return to the negotiating table in the near future.

With Moscow having suggested the meeting in the first place and Washington wishing to demonstrate its flexibility by agreeing to limit talks if need be to the issue of space arms, both sides would now find it very difficult not to turn up for negotiations without losing credibility.

President Reagan would like to show the world, and in particular the American voters, that he is again on speaking terms with the Soviet Union - if possible, before the elections.

Moscow's fits in with this line of thinking, and it was easy for Reagan to generously offer to start negotiations in the USA after the elections if desired.

One of Moscow's main motives may be the desire to enter into talks with the probable winner of the election before elections take place so as to guarantee better terms for negotiations at a later date.

Up to now anyway there has been no *nyet* from Moscow.

There are varying interests behind the wish to hold negotiations on the limitation of space arms.

The Soviets fear that President Reagan will take his time in making his way to the negotiating table if re-elected. However, time is short, particularly in the field of anti-satellite weapons.

Although the Soviets were the first to develop such weapons they will soon be overtaken by the Americans.

The Russian devices can only reach a low orbitting height and can be easily intercepted. The American two-stage missile, which is fired from a high-flying aircraft, climbs to much greater heights and appears to be much more accurate.

One of the reasons for Moscow's interest in such negotiations is to cut back the American lead. A ban on tests in this field during negotiations would certainly help achieve this goal.

However, Reagan cannot be interested in a moratorium of this kind. Apart from the welcome side-effect of new talks with the Soviets for election efforts Reagan is faced by the pressure of Congress, and in particular of the House of Representatives, to negotiate with the Soviets before he applies for more funds to develop and mobilise new anti-satellite weapons.

The House of Representatives demands negotiations and an at least one-year test ban from both the Americans and the Soviets. The Senate and the government, on the other hand, would like to see tests delayed and limited to a period of one or two years.

Reagan, therefore, must at least show that he was willing to talk to the Soviets about a ban or limitation of anti-satellite weapons, even if he himself has doubts as whether such an agreement can at all be controlled.

Negotiations can at least serve to delay any further development of anti-satellite weapons. Any further advances by the Americans on this score would mean that the Soviets would find no peace before they have again caught up with their arch rivals.

Any acceleration of the arms race in space cannot be matter of indifference to a re-elected Reagan, for if his personal majority dwindles and the Republican Party fares badly during elections to Congress he will be confronted by greater opposition on Capitol Hill.

This will be all the more so if the development and deployment of the anti-satellite system touches on the question of changing or cancellation of the ABM Agreement still in force, which only allows both sides two anti-missile systems each.

The Soviet Union would like to see the planned Vienna talks limited to begin with to space arms. However, in the long run they will not be able to prevent inclusion in the negotiations of strategic weapons and medium-range missiles.

At the moment their demand for the removal of Cruise and Pershing missiles and the abandonment of moves to station any more is a major stumbling-block.

Recently, however, the Soviets have backed down somewhat from this position. Instead Soviet experts such as Marshal Tolubko and Chief of Staff Ogarkov emphasise that the Pershing 2 cannot be used for a "decapitation or final strike".

The suspicion that the Soviet Union wishes to play down the significance of the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles and is preparing a gradual revival of the negotiations on strategic weapons (START) is not far-fetched.

The Soviets can claim to be superior in the field of medium-range missiles, whereas they have reason to fear Reagan's modernisation programme for strategic weapons.

However, it would be exaggerated to expect too much from a new start in Vienna.

Dieter Schröder

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 24 July 1984)

Bonn, East Berlin

Continued from page 1

extension of the youth exchange programme after the Kohl government had attached such great importance to this topic.

However, yet again there were no real improvements for the non-pensioners in the GDR - after all, the overwhelming majority of the population.

To obtain such improvements for Germans in the GDR has always been one of the most difficult tasks facing governments in Bonn. Nevertheless, despite the fact that this will remain a field of step-by-step policies, Bonn's Deutschlandpolitik should concentrate its efforts on this aspect.

Other improvements achieved over the years in intra-German relations are by no means less important. However, Deutschlandpolitik cannot merely consist of a policy of safeguarding the interests of Berlin, as pursued by Helmut Schmidt, or of a lending policy à la Strauss and Kohl.

Longer-range planning, clear priorities and better coordination between Bonn and West Berlin are essential if hitches are to be prevented and a fair balance struck between the services rendered by Bonn and the GDR's services in return.

Peter Jochen Winters

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 3 August 1984)

The German Tribune

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH, 23 Schoene Aussicht, D-2000 Hamburg 76, Tel · 22 85 1, Telex 02-14733

Editor-in-chief Otto Heinz Editor, Alexander Anthony English language sub-editor Simon Burnett — Distribution manager Georgine Picone

Advertising rates list No 15
Annual subscription DM 45

Printed by CW Niemeyer-Druck, Hameln

Distributed in the USA by MASS MAILINGS, Inc. 540 West 24th Street, New York, N Y 10011

Articles in THE GERMAN TRIBUNE are translated from the original text and published by agreement with leading newspapers in the Federal Republic of Germany

In all correspondence please quote your subscription number which appears on the wrapper, between asterisks, above your address.

■ HOME AFFAIRS

Environmental row over coal-fired power station

A proposal to allow a coal-fired power station to start up without filters to control emission is at the centre of an environmental row in Germany. The decision to go ahead was originally taken by Bonn Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann. Parliament then convened and voted heavily against the minister. A compromise was then worked out and MPs, away for the summer break, were brought back for a special session. The Bundestag voted in favour of the compromise deal. The station is at Buschhaus, not far from Helmstedt, close to the border with East Germany. Those who say the go ahead should be given point out that even without filters, Buschhaus would be cleaner than other older stations. The controversy is part of a wider environmental issue in which new guidelines for controlling discharges of sulphur dioxide and other pollutants have been issued. These provide for sharp reductions in emission levels of more than 100 compounds including lead, cadmium, nickel, mercury and cyanide. One reason that the power station has caused such a rumpus is the dying forests of West Germany. A wide body of opinion puts the blame on acid rain, which is said to be a result of such things as car exhaust gases and industrial smoke.

Buschhaus is a medium-sized coal-fired power station in Lower Saxony close to the East German border. Just before it was due to go into operation this summer it became a major topic for discussion.

The link between sulphur dioxide and dying forests has been proven and there has been an increase in pseudo-croup and other respiratory illnesses, and not only a few insiders but also major politicians and the population at large cannot make sense of the fact that the station has been built and that it represents a threat to the region by unpurified smoke emission.

At the beginning of June the FDP party conference passed a resolution that Buschhaus must not go into operation without filters.

The Greens, of the same mind, put a resolution before the Bundestag.

The FDP was faced with either voting for a resolution presented by the Greens or to reject it and by so doing not only to go against the party conference resolution but also to betray the party's reputation as the environmental protection party. The FDP environmental protection politicians wrested from their coalition partners a joint resolution which was accepted unanimously in the last week ofthe Bundestag before the summer holiday.

With hindsight the first bad error at Buschhaus was to build a power station without filters — major shareholder of the operating company is the Federal government.

The second error was that the state of Lower Saxony government in Hanover took no notice of warnings given by former FDP Interior Ministers Maihofer and Baum — the CDU government of Ernst Albrecht is the approving authority.

The third error was for the Federal government to agree to the Bundestag resolution without first finding out if and how this resolution could be put into effect.

Then followed error after error. Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann jumped the gun by letting it be known that despite the government resolution Buschhaus would go into operation without filters. The government then planned to sell its measures claiming that they would give allegedly greater environmental protection in the Helmstedt area than that in the parliamentary resolution — two days later this only had the effect of being a lame attempt to justify the government's measure that was a blatant way out in "disregard of Parliament".

The FDP ministers protested in the cabinet. The interior committee of the Bundestag was called back from the summer recess. The committee maintained that the information provided by the government was scandalous and badly prepared, chaotic.

The SPD called for a special sitting of Parliament last Tuesday.

In the meantime the FDP put forward a brave statement saying that Buschhaus must have filters before it could be put in operation.

There were sharp words about (the recent accident) of the FDP and equally sharp retorts that it was not the FDP that had foresaken the agreed basis for a solution.

In the meantime the FDP learned that Albrecht had frequently said quite clearly that no matter what happened approval for Buschhaus would be handed down within the next few days, and that there was nothing left but to try and pacify the coalition and to extricate as much as possible for environmental protection that the environmental protection parties needed to save face.

After the Tuesday debate the situation seemed like this: Were Buschhaus to go into operation without filters (which the operators could do according to the present legislation in force) then 145,000 tonnes of sulphur dioxide would be emitted into the air around Helmstedt.

According to the first government plain, that the FDP did not approve, the amount of pollution would be 125,000 tonnes. This would be achieved by burning brown coal instead of saliniferous lignite, by closing the power station at Offleben I and by cutting back at Offleben II. The FDP proposal accepted by the coalition and that on Tuesday evening was approved by the Bundestag by 265 votes for, 195 against with six abstentions included:

- Buschhaus would burn brown coal until a filter plant had been built
- Offleben I would be closed down
- Because Buschhaus, although able to provide more jobs, was a "greater danger" than had been foreseen Offleben II would be cut back
- Blocks A and B of the three-block Offleben II would be fitted out with a chalk purification plant with the dry cleaned process.
- Filters at Buschhaus, scheduled to go into operation according to present legislation in 1988 would go into operation six months earlier.
- Sulphur dioxide emissions in the Helmstedt area would be reduced immediately from 140,000 tonnes to 120,000, then to 113,000 tonnes (to 1986) and then to 37 tonnes by the middle of 1987, and from 1993 onwards to 9,000 tonnes. There would be continuous controls to ensure that these levels were achieved.

What here appears to be an improvement is in fact disillusioning. The first government plan, that the FDP would not go along with, was a compromise limiting the sulphur dioxide emissions to 120,000 tonnes. Then in 1986 the reduction would be 6,500 tonnes, and only then when DM110 million had been poured into the dry cleaned additive plant. It is no surprise then that journalists in Bonn have not commented that Offleben II could be fired with bank notes.

In the government debate of 31 July there was nothing left of the environmental agreement made at the end of June involving all parties.

The SPD and the Greens fell upon the FDP mercilessly, who had bravely tried to wrest a majority for environmental protection from the major coalition partners.

The FDP is known among the Union parties as "accident prone" now the SPD and the Greens use the same invective against them.

Prime Minister Albrecht gave figures of the number of power stations in West Germany that emitted many times more pollutants than Buschhaus would. He did not deceive, he just did not give the whole truth. He did not add that these power stations produced much more electricity.

Ada Brandes

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 5 August 1984)

Electricity plant controversy a catalyst for conflict

For a time it seemed as if the coalition partners in Bonn, two locomotives on the same track, would speed into each with the same aims in mind. They wanted to create a breakthrough for their own environmental policies.

The breakup of the Christian Democrat-Liberal coalition no longer seems unlikely. The cause is a medium-sized power station, although not the power station itself.

The stumbling block for the Bonn coalition is whether this power station can be put into operation without filters, when an adjustment to pollution can be achieved by cutting back on another power station.

The question that so threatens the coalition was only half understood by experts.

But in the end common sense has prevailed.

Lower Saxony Premier Ernst Albrecht has made sure that the problem is not limited in its significance. He made it quite clear where the responsibility for the Buschhaus power station lay, not with the FDP, not with the Bonn government and also not with the Bundestag, that has said no to putting the station into operation, even with saliniferous lignite.

The responsibility rests with the Lower Saxony Prime Minister, from the point of view of the operators.

Albrecht let the government know that no matter what Buschhaus would be given approval to operate, even if the coalition was on the point of a fight over the issue which did not have any practical point.

Now the coalition has been saved by a compromise. What is certain is that the anger over this conflict will lead to other vexations and conflict.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 31 July 1984)

Bundestag is recalled for special session

Was it worth the expense of calling a special session of the Bundestag, bringing MPs back from holiday to discuss the Buschhaus coal-fired power station? It would have been so if the impression had not been given that the government in Bonn was ignoring the will of Parliament.

If the Bundestag knew a month ago what the government and the Lower Saxony government reported yesterday over pollution then the Parliament would not have voted unanimously for the resolution that was eventually corrected in many details. Then the rumpus of the last two weeks would not have occurred, that has endangered the Bonn coalition. Then the Bundestag would not have had to be called back from holiday.

The government and Lower Saxony Prime Minister Ernst Albrecht yesterday convincingly produced the facts of how the environmental pollution by the new power station at Buschhaus would be drastically cut. If the information is correct more will be achieved than the Bundstag demanded on 28 June.

Everyone who is concerned about environmental pollution can be satisfied, and that is a majority in all political parties.

Nevertheless the Bundestag debated if, with the new plans for Buschhaus, the air would not be polluted less but more.

This had nothing to do with common sense and understanding the aims of 28 June. The Opposition did not want to ruin their opportunity to criticise.

But Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann and Lower Saxony Premier Ernst Albrecht must be asked why they are only giving information and presenting their new intentions now. They could not have matured in the passage of a few months.

At the end of June the governments in Bonn and Hanover could not convince the Opposition, but they could supposedly head off the coalition from voting along with the SPD and the Greens.

The government could have saved itself a great of internal trouble, if they had not played into the Opposition's hands and irritated their supporters.

In the discussion over Buschhaus it should not be overlooked how quickly priorities and sense have changed.

When Buschhaus was planned West Germany was in shock from the oil crisis. Later certain groups protested against nuclear power stations. Now coal-fired power stations are under attack.

Without energy, however, we could not solve either our social or environmental problems.

We should not cut short discussions on energy. We should cut risks to a minimum. There is no other sensible way.

There yet remains the question if we know all the consequences of Buschhaus. In the course of time it will appear how secure the jobs are if saliniferous lignite were not used or when Buschhaus were not fired until the purification plant was ready.

Rudolf Bauer

(Rheinische Post, 1 August 1984)

■ DEFENCE

Carrington gets down to business at Nato

DIE WELT

There cannot be many officials in the world whose brief is described in such concise but vague terms as that of the Nato secretary-general.

His job outline reads like the director's notes for a superstar who can be left to flesh out his part on his own.

But there is one directive issued in connection with the work of the first Nato secretary-general, Lord Ismay, a wartime friend of Churchill's.

It includes one crucial sentence governing the role of the man who, to quote immediate past incumbent Joseph Luns of Holland, is the "highest authority of an alliance of free nations" whose pact is not a "supranational organisation."

The sentence reads: "He (the secretary-general) has the right to raise any subject he sees fit in the North Atlantic Council."

To the Anglo-Saxon mind that describes the power and powers of Nato's secretary-general sufficiently, and without splitting hairs, to enable the incumbent to make the job very much what he wants it to be.

That being so, much depends on member-countries being able to agree beforehand on a candidate capable of fending for himself.

He must be able, using this sentence as his guide, to channel the decisions of what are now 16 sovereign countries in the direction he sees fit.

This one sentence obviously doesn't include everything the new Nato secretary-general, Lord Carrington, learnt about his job from three typewritten pages of instructions.

But in comparison with it, the rest pales in significance and appears to amount to no more than minor details.

The secretary-general's ability to make something out of the job will depend on his experience, his analytical ability, his political instinct, his will power, his skill at persevering to get his own way and his general aptitude.

He always chairs sessions of the North Atlantic Council, regardless whether they are meetings of Nato Foreign or Defence Ministers or their permanent representatives, the Nato countries' ambassadors in Brussels.

They, the ambassadors, are the men whose views prevail at Nato headquarters in Brussels, incidentally, and not the military.

The Supreme Allied Commander Europe, US General Bernard Rogers, is based 70km out of Brussels at Mons in western Belgium.

From his own gigantic headquarters in Mons General Rogers commands the instrument which ensures that Nato retains political freedom.

Much of what Lord Carrington learnt on taking over in Brussels is based on long years of tradition and on the view Nato countries take of the pact's role.

New members have voluntarily accepted this basic consensus. They need not otherwise have joined.

The basic viewpoint Nato countries share is outlined in the 1956 report compiled by Foreign Ministers Lester Pearson of Canada, Halvard Lange of Norway and Gaetano Martino of Italy.

"The fundamental historic fact," they wrote, "is that the nation-state, being exclusively based on national policies and national power, is no longer sufficient to ensure progress or even survival in the nuclear age."

This statement tells more about the essentials of the North Atlantic pact than entire lectures. Nato has always seen itself primarily as a community of countries based on common political values and not as the appendix of its military organisation.

This realisation has been obscured in recent years by the public debate on the dual-track Nato decision, for which Nato has only itself to blame.

The debate has enabled the Soviet Union to exercise all manner of influence on Western public opinion, which is unfair inasmuch as there is no such thing as a public opinion in the East Bloc.

Back in 1956 the "Three Wise Men" were quite clear on the extent to which Nato had pledged itself to constantly aim at better political cooperation with the Soviet Union and other East Bloc states.

"What would not be understood," they wrote, "would be any failure on our part to be ready to seek ways and means of pulling down obstacles to creating this confidence."

But the three Foreign Ministers were not dreamers. Their 28-year-old political testament reads as though it contained guidelines drawn up only yesterday:

"All men of honesty and goodwill will realise that we are not necessarily, to be on the safe side, unquestionably accepting the peaceful character of Soviet stratagems.

"They will also appreciate that we refuse to abandon our defences until we are convinced that conditions on which international confidence can be based have been restored."

We may rest assured that Lord Carrington will base his approach on these points, but there are two issues he seems likely to emphasise in his quiet but purposeful British way.

They are, without claiming to list them in order of importance:

- To bring about an improvement in East-West ties, Nato being not just a military alliance but also a political one;
- To ensure that ties between America and Europe in Nato are as close as possible, offering determined resistance to negative tendencies.

The second objective is based on the profound conviction that defending the West is impossible without the United States.

Lord Carrington has only been in office since the end of June. He is still learning the ropes, but doing so with an intensity that has taken old Nato hands by surprise.

He normally works a 12-hour day and has already shown signs of wanting to break out in fresh directions.

That is indicated by the direction of papers his staff of 1,200 at Nato headquarters must help to draft.

His past experience as Defence Minister and Foreign Secretary, in both of

Continued on page 8



Lord Carrington . . . rolled up the sleeves (Photo: Poly-Press)

Manpower, money, pose big problems for Wörner

When the CDU were still on the Opposition benches in Bonn Helmut Kohl and Manfred Wörner both said they would increase defence spending by three per cent a year in real terms if they were in power.

It was high time the target set by Nato in 1977 was met, they argued, and this sentiment was one the United States was only too happy to hear.

Herr Wörner is now Defence Minister in Bonn, but there has been no change. The CDU/CSU-FDP government's policy is to cut costs, and Herr Wörner is in much the same position as his SPD predecessor, Hans Apel.

His defence spending has failed to live up to Nato expectations. The 1985 estimates may, at DM49.3bn, amount to a fifth of the budget total.

The defence estimates may be the second-largest item in the 1985 Bonn budget and scheduled to increase nominally by 3.7 per cent.

But after adjustment for inflation that leaves little or nothing by way of any real increase, and the Americans, who well remember Herr Wörner's promises, are gradually growing short-tempered.

That is something with which the Defence Minister might be able to come to terms — if only his domestic position were stronger. But a cold wind has blown in his direction on the home front since the unfortunate Kiessling Affair.

Gone is his reputation of being a dynamic go-getter. Manfred Wörner is in an unenviable position as Defence Minister.

Yet the Bundeswehr badly needs a strong Defence Minister at present. A concept needs to be agreed on how to solve the tremendous problems that lie ahead for the armed forces.

The experts have long been aware of the fact that low birth-rate years will start to hit forces manpower from 1987.

The problem can be deferred until the end of the decade by calling up older conscripts and being less exacting where fitness requirements are concerned.

But the situation will then be serious. It is already clear that Bundeswehr manpower will plummet from the present 495,000 to less than 300,000 unless drastic action is taken.

There is no sure cure. An entire range of measures is sure to be needed, such as recruiting women volunteers, signing on more professional soldiers and making conscripts serve longer.

That would mean structural changes in the armed forces, and both drafting plans and implementing them will take time.

Manpower needs must be sounded out in detail. How many men does each of the three services need? How is it best to raise them? Most important of all, how is it going to pay for them?

Time is passing and nothing seems to be being done along these lines.

All three services need to buy new weapons in the near future. There are plans for a new anti-tank helicopter, new armour-plated vehicles, a new rocket-launcher system and a new European combat aircraft.

These programmes alone would already cost about DM54bn, but they are not the end of the matter. The Bundesmarine says it needs six new frigates and nine submarines. There is also an arrangement with the United States on air defence weapons.

That is not even to mention the DM33bn that are still outstanding on the Tornado multi-role combat aircraft. That means another DM42bn or so, and where is it to come from?

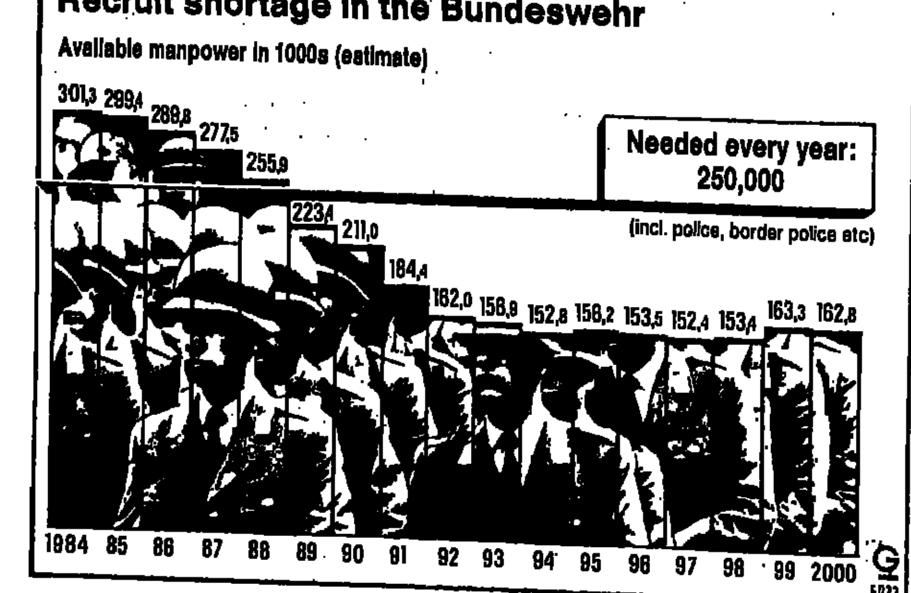
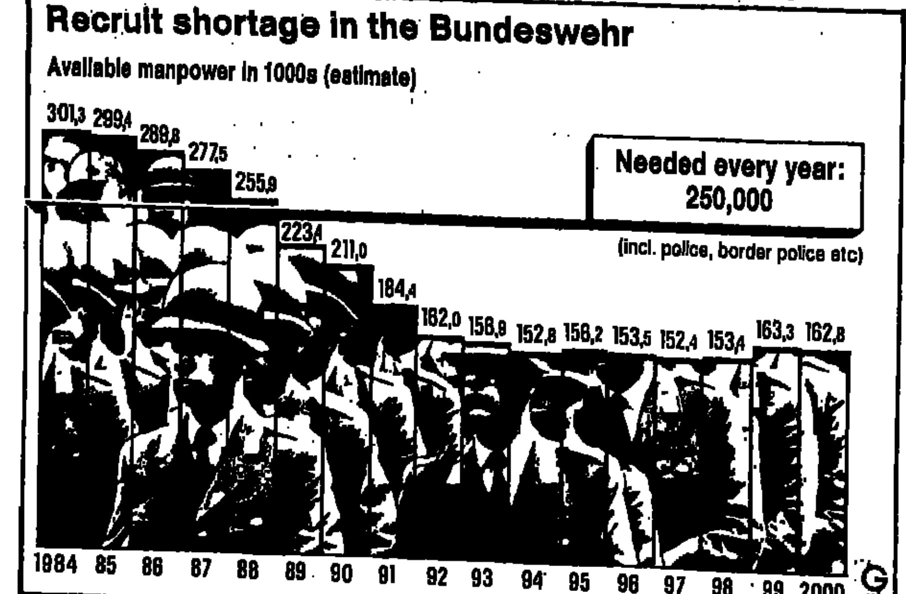
In the 1985 estimates DM17.6bn is to be spent on investment. It isn't all to be ploughed into procurement, and the amount will be no higher in the years ahead.

Presentation of the new defence estimates would have been a fine opportunity to outline a long-overdue new defence concept.

Herr Wörner failed to grasp the opportunity even though he must know absolutely everything depends on it as far as he is concerned. It isn't too late yet, but he will have to get a move on.

Stephan Casdorff

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 23 July 1984)

■ DEPRIVATION

Anatomy of a hungry person: why famine strikes where it does

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

A hundred and fifty million people in 25 African countries face an immediate threat from famine. Nearly 300,000 may well already have starved to death in Mozambique alone.

A United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation regional meeting was held in Harare, the Zimbabwean capital, to try and get to grips with the crisis.

But they failed. The representatives of 41 African countries passed recommendations so helpless and couched in such general terms that no government concerned is likely to take them as a guideline for energetic action.

Yet everything that was listed in Harare, which is right at the heart of the drought-stricken area, is right and necessary.

The means of agricultural production need to be better distributed. Farmers need easier credit terms. They need incentives to boost their harvests.

Existing infrastructure needs improving, as does artificial irrigation. Farmers need to be better trained. Agricultural research needs improving, as does pest control.

Yet if the FAO had gone about its work in all earnest the government delegations in Harare would have needed to pillory themselves.

It is unquestionably true that the causes the Africans blame for famine are partly to blame for the present crisis.

They include the long years of drought, the world recession, the shortage of foreign exchange and cuts in development aid.

But that is only half the truth. Political considerations ruled out, as so often, the unsparing analysis of the situation that would have been an essential first step toward resolving the dilemma.

Famine is not solely due to natural disasters such as droughts and failed harvests. It is not just the result of an act of God; people, and governments, are very much to blame too.

Hardship in Africa is very largely the responsibility of governments themselves. Droughts and failed harvests only wreak utter havoc where errors, omissions and mistaken policies have paved the way.

In many cases misguided use of technology and economic and political mistakes in the Third World have brought about a deterioration in living standards, not an improvement.

Famine has been a consequence of environmental destruction, reckless felling of limited timber resources, overgrazing and ruthless exploitation of nature.

Dams built with enormous sums raised in development aid capital have in many cases upset the ecological and economic balance.

Famine is also a result of population growth in Africa at a rate with which development has been unable to keep pace. While food production is on the decline, the population is increasing by four per cent a year.

Famine is also due to many African governments having neglected agriculture and concentrated on pointless prestige projects instead.

Traditional farming techniques are destroyed and replaced by techniques that are worse-suited to conditions in African countries.

Famine is caused by agricultural exports and crops such as coffee, tea and tobacco being grown on land that is then no longer available for food production.

Farmers have to go hungry so that others can earn a profit from their export crops while they don't even earn enough to be able to buy enough food.

Fields are left unsown because bad pricing leaves farmers with no incentive whatever to grow crops on them.

Low crop prices are imposed by governments on political grounds. Cheap bread will, it is hoped, nip urban unrest in the bud.

Famine is finally caused by well-meaning food aid. In West Africa, for instance, wheat has for years been given preference over home-grown millet.

Yet traditional millet is much more resistant to a dry climate, and farmers are not going to work their fingers to the bone growing foodgrains available free of charge from the rich countries' food surpluses.

Food aid may be essential in an emergency to save lives by the thousand. But food aid campaigns are dangerous when they foster the illusion that hardship in Africa can be ended by generous one-off donations.

For one, the energetic campaigns tend to make donors grow immune to appeals. When they are made too often, people will eventually tend no longer to heed them.

Besides, help given one year more or less inevitably paves the way for the next famine.

In drought-stricken countries aid tends to sound the death knell of initiative, individual responsibility and the need to fend for oneself.

Disaster relief, essential though it may be, must always be accompanied by a long-term development strategy, and in this connection the European Community is bound in the right direction.

The EEC's bid to arrive at a new form of development aid makes loans and any increase in financial assistance subject to the countries concerned energetically pursuing rural-development policies.

Recipients are expected to set up marketing systems that work, to lay down sensible prices that give farmers an incentive to boost output, and to provide adequate storage and transport facilities.

Accusing the Europeans of intervening in African domestic affairs and pursuing "neo-colonialist" policies is clearly unjustified in this context.

This tutelage is intended to make the recipients more independent in the long run and is the lesser evil.

The famine-hit countries are dependent on the rich industrialised nations at present in any case, and this dependence is far more humiliating and painful for young nations than other varieties.

Thomas Gack

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 28 July 1984)

Poor and isolated, the refugee remains the unwelcome guest

Hannoversche Allgemeine

The second international UN conference on refugees has ended without media drum-roll after three days of talks in Geneva. Yet it was still a most important gathering for the United Nations.

It was attended by representatives of 112 states. UN secretary-general Perez de Cuellar flew to Geneva for the opening ceremony. The conference was preceded by three years of thorough preparations.

They dealt in detail with aid plans drawn up to ease the lot of refugees in Africa.

The desire to solve the refugee problem, which affects all African countries, overrode continued frontier disputes and political differences.

From the outset the conference was intended to be limited to humanitarian goals. There were no plans to use it as a forum for roundly condemning others.

As the East Bloc was not represented there was no opportunity for an East-West slanging match.

That may have been regretted by journalists covering the conference but it will certainly have been beneficial to the outcome of the talks.

The subject of the conference was far too serious to have been limited to the words spoken for effect that one so often hears on such occasions.

The number of refugees in Africa is extremely high. The UN high commissioner refers to four million, but the true figure is probably much larger.

That alone is a heartrending indictment of the African countries' inability to settle their disputes peacefully.

The figure subdivides into millions of individual destinies, each sad enough in itself. Refugees have no lobby.

They have no rights and, in most cases, no regular jobs. They lack welfare support and often are out of touch with their families.

They are tolerated at best in their host countries. They suffer strain beyond the ken of local people, no matter how much hardship *they* might suffer.

In many cases, even in Africa, they have to wait for months before being accorded refugee status. Regardless of traditional African hospitality their status is liable to be probed as bureaucratically as in Europe.

For countries that offer them a new home, refugees are a twofold burden. Official recognition of their status is a further strain on relations with their countries of origin (relations that are often strained already).

They also swell the ranks of the unemployed. They aren't allowed to work in the public sector, but for the most part private enterprise is rudimentary.

Being a refugee in Africa often means being even more isolated than in Europe.

The UN high commissioner for refugees may have succeeded in arranging for the return to their countries of origin of hundreds of thousands of refugees in recent years. The number of registered refugees has fallen from five million to four million.

This silent struggle against hardship may merit our respect but it cannot, by any stretch of the imagination, be termed a success.

The UN aid agency is dissatisfied with being able to do no more than meet refugees' basic needs. It is not in a position to offer either them or their children the slightest prospect of hope for the future.

An initial attempt to arrive at a long-term solution to the refugee problem is now to be undertaken.

Infrastructure is to be expanded. New jobs are to be created in farming, forestry and fishing. The aim is to enable refugees either to assimilate in their host countries or to return to their countries of origin.

Over the next five years $362m has been earmarked for projects of this kind. The projects for investment have been drawn up by the would-be recipients. Will donors in Western Europe and the Persian Gulf pay up without demurring?

In spite of the declarations of unanimity in Geneva this point was not clarified. He who pays the piper often insists on calling the tune.

Was it necessary to hold an expensive conference to discuss development aid expenditure laughably small in comparison with the recipient countries' debts and with what they really need?

Europeans may have their doubts on this score, but in Africa the conference plays a part that cannot be overestimated politically, quite apart from the material achievement.

African countries tend to be so preoccupied with their own problems that they forget all about their neighbours.

They may at best bear their immediate area in mind, and of course their former colonial power, which has made too deep an impression for them to be able to free themselves from it entirely.

African unity nonetheless remains a long-range target that is not only constantly mentioned in ceremonial addresses but also ever present in the minds of Africans who think further ahead than the immediate future.

A conference such as the one held in Geneva presents an opportunity of feeling they hold something in common: in this case common troubles.

The importance of such a gathering for the identity of Africa, its pride and ability to drag itself out of the present chaos, ought not to be underrated.

Hans-Anton Papendieck

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 12 July 1984)

A few years ago there were widespread laments that the German economy was on the brink of collapse because West German workers worked less and earned more than the Japanese. Now their is alarm over the technological gap that allegedly separates us from Japan and the United States. Both business and government are in the dock, accused of failing to see the shape of things to come.

■ THE ECONOMY

Getting to the heart of the matter — performance

Süddeutsche Zeitung

The technological gap debate took shape in connection with recent trends in the Federal Republic of Germany's international competitive position.

Germany's share of world trade declined steadily in the 1970s, due mainly, or so it is said, to the unusually high rate of price rises for crude oil and petroleum products.

The United States has similarly been hit by this trend, whereas Japan has succeeded in cutting itself a larger slice of the world trade cake.

Bundesbank figures suggest that Germany's share of world trade has improved lately: from 10 per cent in 1980 to 11 per cent in 1983. In 1982 Bonn held pride of place worldwide in exports of industrial goods.

Yet dark clouds were said to be on the horizon. Various reports have suggested that the economy as a whole is still in a healthy position but that it shows signs of weakness in future-oriented growth sectors.

West Germany, the Bundesbank for instance warned, was losing ground in exports of advanced technology.

Bonn quickly hit back. The Economic Affairs Ministry dismissed this conclusion as premature, saying the choice of advanced technological products had been arbitrary (there not being any clear definition in any case).

The Bundesbank survey certainly limits itself to a very small group of product categories, such as data processing, telecom technology, electronic valves and transistors, measuring instruments and technical equipment.

Between them these categories account for a mere 3.5 per cent of German exports.

Comparing the figures for the six leading suppliers reveals that between 1972 and 1983 the US and Japanese export shares increased from 32.2 to 37 and from 23 to 25 per cent. Germany's share of the market fell from 26.3 to 17 per cent.

A report by the HWWA economic research institute, Hamburg, also clearly indicates that the Federal Republic has lost ground in exports of advanced technology.

Kiel University department of world trade in contrast bases its assessment on a much wider range of goods, between them accounting for about 40 per cent of exports. Its figures show the German share of world exports to have fallen a mere one per cent or so by 1980.

The Ifo economic research institute, Munich, arrives at an even smaller decline in advanced technology exports between 1970 and 1982, while in slightly less advanced technology Ifo says German exporters have gained ground.

The Economic Affairs Ministry bases its figures on 11 categories of goods accounting for about 15 per cent of German exports.

In respect of this basket of goods the Ministry says Germany's market share remained constant between 1966 and 1979, then fell slightly, recovering again to 15.3 per cent in 1982.

The average percentage in previous years having been just over 17, the Federal Republic had not quite managed to regain its erstwhile standing.

Japan in contrast more than doubled its exports in these categories by 1981, but in 1982 its share declined slightly to 16 per cent. The United States' share is reported to have declined from 27.2 per cent in 1966 to 25.4 per cent in 1982.

Diagnoses on the extent and earnest of weak spots among high-tech products vary widely, depending on where the line is drawn.

The Bundesbank survey, for instance, reports imports to have exceeded exports of data processing equipment and electronic components.

Germany is a net importer of goods in the high tech category microelectronics and in entertainment electronics.

The Economic Affairs Ministry says Germany has also lost substantial ground in export markets in respect of chemical fertilisers and pesticides, anorganic chemicals, measurement and control technology and optical, medical and photographic equipment.

That need not necessarily mean a technological gap is to blame. Prices, marketing and production capacity can play an equally decisive role.

Yet even if an innovation shortfall is assumed to have been to blame, it only applies to the past and is no guide to present or future competitive positions.

Many pundits say the German economy is in the process of closing the gap. The Bonn government says high tech exports not only increased substantially last year; they were also even higher than imports than they had been the previous year.

High tech products as a rule require heavy advance investment, which is why research and development spending is felt to be a pointer to innovative capacity.

The Battelle Institute, Frankfurt, says public and private sector R & D expenditure this year will increase by roughly six per cent to over DM50m.

In terms of gross domestic product Germany holds pride of place internationally, with R & D accounting for 2.8 per cent of GDP, as against 2.6 per cent in the United States and Japan.

But the increase is much greater in both countries: In 1975, Battelle says, R & D spending in Germany and Japan was roughly equal at about $10bn. By 1983 German spending was up to $19bn, but Japan's to $27bn.

The United States is still head and shoulders above the rest of the field, however, with R & D spending amounting to over $86bn last year.

The number of a country's research scientists is another important indicator, and here too the United States led in 1981 with a research manpower of roughly 673,000, as against 317,000 in Japan and 127,000 in Germany.

Yet on balance the Battelle Institute concludes that in research and development German industry still has what it takes for a high degree of innovative capacity.

Research cash and manpower are themselves are naturally no guarantee that either will deliver the goods, of course.

Patents applied for are another guide to whether research is bearing fruit. The latest Bundesbank figures show signs of a most encouraging trend in patent and licence trade.

In 1982 and 1983 all-German companies (firms not partly in foreign hands) reported a handsome increase in their patent and licence trade surplus.

Another hopeful sign is that the number of patents applied for at the German Patent Office in Munich has been on the increase since 1981.

They are on the increase at the European Patent Office too, where Germany ranks second to the United States and comes well ahead of third-placed Japan.

This order of importance corresponds with the findings of an Ifo report on patents applied for worldwide in leading sectors of technology. The United States is reported to have a share of about 31, Germany 21 and Japan 10 per cent.

The order is the same for key patents applied for in at least 15 countries, for which the figures are 36 per cent for the United States, 16 per cent for Germany and three per cent for Japan.

Ifo does sound one warning note, however, pointing out that German industry has a microelectronics gap in certain sectors, such as mechanical engineering.

Yet the German mechanical engineering industry claims in 1982 and 1983 to have caught up with US and Japanese competitors, which only goes to show how problematic such statistical comparisons can be.

Another Ifo report claims that fewer than 50 per cent of innovators questioned have even applied for patents to protect their technological innovations. So more than half their inventions stay company secrets.

Besides, the *number* of patents is no guide to their importance. So no-one can say for sure where Germany stands in the high tech stakes, although there can be no doubt that it is one of the leaders.

Dr Erich Häusser of the German Patent Office says Germany has ground to make good in semiconductors, entertainment electronics, bio- and genetic engineering (where the gap is not yet apparent in export statistics).

At the European Patent Office the United States is felt to be well ahead in genetic engineering, followed by Germany, Britain and France (all roughly level-pegging).

Then comes Japan. But America and Japan are in the lead when it comes to microelectronics, although Europe is fast gaining ground.

Inventions may be indispensable for product innovation, but putting them to use in production and marketing is what counts for industrial order books.

Statistically there is no way of recording this process, which makes it extremely difficult to assess.

Yet many experts agree on the sore point being that this process takes place

Continued on page 7



■ THE EEC

A chill wind blows through the Parliament

DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Peter Barry, the Irish Foreign Minister and President of the European Council said the climate for the new European Parliament did not seem favourable.

The Irishman's statement hit the nail on the head.

The sitting to organise the second directly elected Parliament lasted three days and there were long periods of frustration and frostiness.

"At the present it's ice-cold here," said Rudi Arndt, leader of the Socialists in the Parliament.

Elections for appointments within the Parliament on the first day were the source of parliamentary frustration. Polarisation within the Parliament looks as if it will be the main facet of the second directly elected European Parliament.

The decisions of the heads of government at the last summit meeting in Fontainebleau were the reasons for the frosty relationships between the Council of Ministers, the EEC Commission and Parliament.

The agenda was taken up for two days with debate on Fontainebleau and the programme the Irish presidency proposes up to the end of the year.

Ireland's Premier Garret FitzGerald summed up the balance of opinion on the summit, a balance that in his view was positive, if the latest row in the Council of Ministers about budget problems were not again superimposed.

All Europeans should be ashamed if they waste time "about unimportant measures concerning money and milk".

As was to be expected FitzGerald's programme for Europe was a pragmatic programme for progress and not a programme for institutional development.

He, along with Foreign Minister Barry, regard the battle against unemployment as having top priority in Europe, followed by demands for improvements for citizens.

There is a contradiction here for the MEPs. No MEP could object to these good intentions, but the fact is that similar promises have been made for years.

More down to earth was an examination of the results of the Fontainebleau summit. In unison the MEPs fear they will be pushed to the edge of Community affairs. Unity in Fontainebleau was stronger than ever before, a unity in which the Parliament did not participate. And that upset the MEPs. Egon Klepsch, leader of the Social Democrats in the Parliament said: "This Parliament will not be content with being a patient onlooker at the edge of the European stage."

For Klepsch, as for Rudi Arndt, the unity at Fontainebleau over British contributions conflicted with the Rome treaties, because London had received funds that had not been used for European projects.

Rudi Arndt hauled the EEC Commission, protector of the treaties, over the coals: "I am deeply dismayed that the present Commission has not objected loudly and clearly. Mr Commission President please write in the minutes: This Commission has failed as a protector of the treaties."

That was the kind of tone and manner of the internal wrangling for position.

The right extremists of Jean Marie Le Pen provided more sharpness and turbulence than the Greens when they first entered Strasbourg.

But in the end all came out right. The Socialists vice-president was elected. Out of the twelve MEPs that are appointed vice-presidents were the West Germans Horst Seefeld (SPD) and Siegbert Alber (CDU). There was just as much wrangling for committee chairmen as there had been for the top positions.

Ulrich Lüke

(Die Welt, 27 July 1984)

Personalities in Strasbourg and their influence

The two largest political groupings in the European Parliament each have a West German chairman — Rudi Arndt leading the Socialists and Egon Klepsch the Christian Democrats.

Two of the four EEC institutions are headed by Frenchmen — Pierre Pflimlin, president of the European Parliament, and from 1 January next year Jacques Delors as head of the EEC Commission in Brussels.

The telegram from the Bonn Chancellery to 10 Downing Street inviting the British Conservatives to support Pierre Pflimlin for president underlines a basic fact in the European Community. For this in two and a half years' time a Briton of Margaret Thatcher's choice would take over the lead of the Strasbourg MEPs.

The "triangle of power, Bonn-Paris-London" has revealed itself. The days when the French-German duo in confrontation with Britain had to drag the EEC rattle-traps from the mud are over.

Power has become a new key word in Europe. The new European Community president Jacques Delors stands for the free enterprise. He joined the French Socialist Party in 1974 — previously he had been for many years an economics and financial adviser to Gaullist premiers and presidents.

Delors, 59, son of an official of the French National Bank, believes in free enterprise that should "not hinder the construction of an effective, just society." He has more or less taken to his heart the social free enterprise concepts of Ludwig Erhard. In Brussels it is expected that the EEC Commission will in future be guided by his ideas.

The man who "paved the way" for Delors to go to Brussels is the new President of the European Parliament, Pierre Pflimlin, a European visionary, who stands beside Delors.

Many believe that Pflimlin, former mayor of Strasbourg, was too old at 77. But after his first speech outlining his programme which lasted an hour and which he delivered without notes, this impression changed. The 434 MEPs from the ten member states are led by a champion of a united Western Europe.

He is known in Austria and Switzerland where from 1963 to 1966 he was president of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe (members are all the democratic states of Europe).

Pflimlin began his period in office with a declaration of war on the governments. He demanded that the EC decision-making institution, the Council of Ministers should return to the majority vote as prescribed in the Treaties of Rome. He seems determined to use the powers available to the Parliament.

It is as good as certain that the MEPs will hold up the rebate of DM2.2 billion to Britain from European Community funds until the Council of Ministers has re-organised Community financing. This was promised at the EC summit conference in Fontainebleau.

Hermann Bohle

(Bremer Nachrichten, 26 July 1984)

MPs start by blocking British rebate

The newly elected European Parliament has not shilly-shallied long. In the first week of its sessions it has shown that it will not allow the ten member-states to trample on its rights, particularly over the budget.

The MEPs in Strasbourg have given a turn to the thumbscrew by blocking the 1983 British contributions rebate.

These proceedings may seem curious to some, but many British cabinet members feel themselves to be blackmailed.

When a Community member does not act in a Community spirit, it has to be forced to.

The Parliament will get sympathy throughout the Community for its act of punishment, but the British can hardly count on any pity.

The fly in the ointment is London's refusal to balance the EEC budgets for 1984 and 1985 with additional contributions.

The other nine members have the impression that in view of this stubbornness the British want this problem to be drawn out through the coming year, since then a larger rebate beckons the British on, so that they will not have to dig so deeply into the pocket.

And Brussels is threatened with not having any money in autumn. So waiting will be a great help.

In principle London is right in demanding for economy measures particularly in agriculture.

So long as the ten member states cover the calamitous overproduction with cash agriculture and the farmers will not rouse themselves to change course.

The Community decisions in March and April for agriculture reform were only a beginning, and no heroic breakthrough. They were shared by the British and they must now answer for the consequences.

By its decisive move the Parliament has shown how it can operate as a watchdog and at the same time win the public's attention.

The 434 MEPs have considerable rights as regards the budget. They can, within limits, alter it and even throw it out. The Parliament can gain in significance through this right. The first directly elected Parliament used this knowledge too little. The European Parliament must draw some conclusions from the drop in the Euro-poll turnout, otherwise it could become no more than a platform for a minority.

In order to attract electors the Parliament must address itself to them. It should concentrate on the important issues, on a sensible balancing of the budget so that expenditure is adjusted to the cash available and not the other way around, on increasing economic activity, fighting unemployment and building up social benefits.

Controversy over these points will be rougher in tone than has been usual.

The British Conservative MEPs have had to learn that their support of Pierre Pflimlin, presented by the Christian Democrats as president candidate did not safeguard their government in London from getting a nasty note three days later from just "these allies".

The fringe groups of the Parliament are all polemical in appearance. The "rainbow groups" with the various Greens and the right-wingers under the controversial Frenchman Jean-Marie Le Pen will fight each other like cats and dogs.

How quickly will the noise of their fighting take to superimpose itself over the important basic matters of controversy? In 1979 it was mockingly said: "If you have a grandfather (Opa), send him to Europe (Europa)."

It is quite obvious that the time of the grandfathers is over in this European Parliament.

Klaus Bohnhof

(Kölner-Stadt Anzeiger, 31 July 1984)

Continued from page 6

too slowly and to too slight an extent. The fund of scientific know-how is not put to sufficient use.

A statistic from which this conclusion may be inferred is the fact that Germany's world share of patents applied for is larger than its share of world trade, whereas Japan, in spite of having a much smaller number of key patents, has substantially improved its competitive position.

Good business can clearly be done by buying innovations in the form of either licence agreements or take-overs.

"The Germans are more creative, the Japanese more purposeful in putting ideas into effect," says Herr Häusser of the German Patent Office.

According to Ifo figures the share of new products in German industrial turnover marked time between 1979 and 1982.

Yet in 1982 a majority of German companies questioned said they had product innovation plans in key technologies. So they seem to be making headway.

There is nothing like necessity to stimulate the imagination, as the old adage has it. But German industry is not in this position; it is in a perfectly healthy condition.

But it mustn't turn a blind eye to shortcomings that undeniably exist, due in part to mismanagement, in some sectors.

There is nothing that can't be remedied, although in microelectronics, German industry's Achilles heel, critical ground remains to be made good.

Generalisation is impossible even in microelectronics, however. There are German products that rank alongside the best in the world.

That is not to say that the debate on German industry's competitive potential has been to no purpose. Problems have been located and probed, new forces have been mobilised. There is no reason for us to have an inferiority complex.

Walter Ludsteck

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 28 July 1984)

■ THE STOCK MARKET

High interest rates blamed for bringing back the bears

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Not much remains of the optimism with which investors greeted 1984. Only a few investment experts see a chance of the continuation of the upsurge in equity prices that was broken off in February.

The upsurge began in August 1982 – when there were signs of a change of government in Bonn — and lasted almost nineteen months.

This year began with great promise. In January the leading stock exchanges in the western industrialised countries reached record levels. In London and Tokyo the share whirlwind continued until the beginning of May.

But only the London share index was higher at the end of the first half of the year than it was when the year opened.

In all other markets there was a drop in prices. According to the share index West German shares went down between one and 3.4 per cent.

Those who hoped that the metalworkers strike would bring investors back were disappointed. It now can be seen that the days of the strike were not buying days.

The downward trend of West German shares continued into the first week *of July unchecked. Not only did prices* reach a new low — the mood did as well.

Seeking for reasons for the international downward trend on stock markets people have pointed to the rise again in international interest rates.

Indeed in the last few months the West German bond market has no longer kept pace with the increase in American interest rates, but the recent increase in the discount rate by the Federal Bank, the central bank of issue, was accepted along with a few sedative pills. It is clear that West Germany cannot fully block the international trend.

A much discussed question is whether the interest rate debacle in the USA, responsible for the American rates will have a noticeable regressive effect this year. So long as the US budget deficit is financed by new borrowing and not by economies and tax increases the West will have to live with high interest rates.

As a result of the unusually strong upswing in the American economy there is a risk of inflation, which can only be fought by the whip of interest rates.

So we have the curious situation in which every positive economic development puts the American stock market under pressure, while the West German stock market reacts in a negative way to West Germany's slackened economic growth.

At the beginning of this year the economic institutions were predicting a 3.5 per cent increase in the gross national product. It now seems likely that it will only reach the 2.5 level.

Many economic experts claim that this is not a misfortune. The slowed-down tempo of economic growth will extend for the duration of the economic cycle and will stabilise share prices.

The mood has been darkened by bankers' reluctance to speak in public about political developments in West Germany. The European Parliament election made it clear that the present coalition government is going to find it hard going to win the 1987 elections.

Until now West Germany has been regarded as a haven of political stability. But the strike for the introduction of the 35-hour working week, that did not have much sympathy abroad and the latest election results have marred West Germany's image as a country for international investment.

We know that to a certain extent the upsurge in equity prices was due to foreign capital investment, so it is not difficult to paint the picture of what would happen if foreign investors turned their back on the West German share market.

Until now international investors have to a large extent held on to their West German bonds. Major American pension funds, for instance, plan to place some of their excess cash in West Germany as part of their policy for spreading the risk. The strong dollar is in their favour. A possible strengthening of the deutsche mark can help foreign dollar holders to double their profits, once through the exchange rate and again through shares.

From the foreigner point of view the recent setback of West German shares makes them competitive even if high expections of yields are not entirely achieved.

In the past few days West German bankers have prepared investment proposals for their international investors in securities, without getting any kind of positive response.

The list of purchase recommendations is long. It extends from car manufacturing shares, under considerable pressure because of the strike, department store shares to the fashionable "rationalised industries", shares in Siemens, PKI, Standard Elektrik Lorenz or IWKA (Karlsruhe).

Other banks have concentrated on raw materials, taking the view that a continuation of the international economic upswing will force up the languishing metal and raw materials prices. It is, of course, difficult to excite private investors during the summer break. This can only be done if new company shares to the stock market are on offer. Until now, new shares quoted on the stock market, with few exceptions, have been disposed of with a relatively considerable gain. About forty per cent of all new share issues change ownership within the first four weeks.

In the first six months of this year DM1.3 billion of risk capital was poured into new listings on the stock market. The lead was taken by Porsche with DM327 million and Nixdorf with DM545 million.

In the first half of this year West German companies attracted DM1.8 billion of new capital. This figure shows that the West German share market is important as an instrument for financing industry.

Of the DM1.8 billion DM565 went to the Deutsche Bank early in the year when the Bank increased its paid-up capital. This giant operation presented no problems.

For some time bank shares were regarded with some scepticism on the stock market, but when the Deutsche Bank increased its capital the banking world, along with other credit institutions, was under the influence of the increased profits achieved in 1983 with the resulting high dividends.

Up to April bank shares showed an increase of nine per cent since the beginning of the year but at the end of the half year they showed a minus.

What happened? In view of increased US interest rates the debt position in Latin America became more critical. Major banks in the USA had to be offered support. It is certain that the long— term consolidation of the debts of South America states will claim its victims and burden their profit and loss acounts for years.

In addition the interim reports of a number of West German credit institutions show that trading profits have taken a dip. As things are at the moment there can be no talk of a topping up the overall account by gains from securities.

Stock markets expect there to be an increase in yields from firms in the chemicals industry. Here the damage caused by the strike was limited. The strong dollar favours exports.

If the outlook for this sector has not brought about an increase in share prices this has been mainly due to the shaky condition of the West German stock market, as well as the fact that favourable company reports from management on the metalworkers' and printers' strike went unnoticed.

As things are at the moment major chemicals companies are candidates for further dividend increases.

If there is a dividend pay out for 1984 of DM7.50 (and to that can be added a corporation tax credit of DM4.21) they limp along with a yield of 7.3 to 7.5 per cent, well behind the yield that can be achieved in the bond market.

To make West German shares attractive from the yield point of view lower interest rates are needed. In periods of a bullish upward tend yield considerations on shares do not play an important role. Stock market price quotations are the most important factor.

Stocks, bonds, securities

Private ownership of stocks and bonds. Quoted value in DM billions

Fixed interest securities* — 1973: 65; 1978: 139; 1983: 262

Shares — 1973: 56; 1978: 69; 1983: 78

*Debentures, joint and several bonds, industrial debentures, public bonds

That could change in the future. When the outlook for lasting gains in share prices looks grim investors take a closer look at share yields. This is particularly true for institutional investors, mainly for life insurance funds, for the yields on their capital has become an important competition factor.

In the first half of this year major insurance companies began to cut their stock portfolios back, increased when there was a bullish upward trend. They believe that in the future yields from shares will equal the yields from bonds in only a few exceptional cases.

Without any trouble major investors can earn 8.25 per cent on domestic long-term shares with a fixed yield. To most insurance company investment managers it is questionable if the same yield could be earned by shares.

But this does not mean that they intend to pull out of the share market completely. They will limit their involvement in speculative issues, and then only to a certain class of shares.

A few companies in the public utilities sector can make a profit out of the return to share yield considerations even if their profit and loss account has to include the increasing costs of environmental protection.

Eventually electric power customers will have to pay. Suitable dividends are essential if electricity supply companies are to remain capable of issuing securities.

Hamburg's electricity supply company (HEW) has learned what it means for a company on the stock market when politics mix in the company's affairs. The Hamburg "Parliament) refused to allow an increase in electricity prices, so HEW had to limit its dividend. The consequence was a drop in HEW share prices.

For investors thinking in the long-term banks are recommending RWE shares. At a quoted price of DM160 and a constant cash yield of DM8, along with the corporation tax credit presents a total yield of approximately eight per cent, a rate that gives the shares stability when the stock market generally is shaky.

In this sector NWK preference shares and Veba stock are considered good for investment.

The credit institutes have given warnings about the yields in the agriculture sector in the first half of the year. Bonus shares and dividend increases have increased the inclination to buy, but it is not always remembered that the results achieved 1983 are not repeatable. Agriculture in West Germany is stagnating and orders from abroad are dropping off.

Kurt Wendt

(Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung, 14 July 1984)

Continued from page 4

which posts he headed a large bureaucratic establishment, will prove invaluable.

His major source of information and the way in which he sounds out what member-countries want is by maintaining constant contact with Nato ambassadors and permanent representatives.

They are not at his beck and call. He can either confer with them officially at Council sessions or, more informally, at the traditional Tuesday lunch shared by Nato ambassadors and the secretary-general.

Many an important political initiative embarked on by Nato has originated at the Tuesday lunch.

An establishment exists and Lord Carrington has the means by which to guide Nato in the direction he favours. He has described what he expects as follows:

"Experience and knowledge of history have taught us that the way to avoid war is to state clearly and unmistakably that we have the means by which to defend ourselves and are determined to do so if need be."

Cay Graf Brockdorff/SAD

(Die Welt, 25 July 1984)

■ RESEARCH

Joint USA-Euro plan for manned space station

DIE WELT

It is becoming increasingly likely that West Germany and Italy will take part with the USA in a joint project to develop and run a manned space research station.

Despite the costs involved, Europe has no option but to enter a joint project, says Gottfried Greger, of the Bonn Research and Technology Ministry.

If Europe did not join in, the United States would gain a huge lead in the space research field. Europe did not have enough money to go it alone.

But in the long term, he told the German Aerospace Research Association in Bremen, member nations of the European Space Agency (Esa) must become independent.

Europe's contribution would be a Spacelab-style module which would be produced in Europe and designed to be docked into an American station. It has already been named Columbus.

Peter Kleber of the DFVLR aerospace research establishment briefed the Bremen gathering on first contacts with potential industrial users.

"It is dreadful," he said, "everyone seems to feel that missions, be they Spacelab or the projected space platform, are for scientific purposes only."

In fact missions were intended to be for use by industrial customers up to and including production facilities in outer space.

Potential industrial customers invariably mention three issues that are all a "must" if they are to have anything to do with the space venture.

There must be guarantees of secrecy and exclusive rights to their findings, and they must also be assured of unhindered access to them.

The main industrial interest is in manufacturing materials in zero gravity, which seems likely to prove extremely important in medicine.

In a state of weightlessness drugs can be processed to be more effective while imposing less strain on the patient's body.

Major companies — 140 of them — have expressed interest in space research and production facilities. Smaller firms are shortly also to be offered the opportunity.

But the Bonn Cabinet must first agree to an increase in the space research budget, Herr Greger said. Next year the Ministry is to invest DM816m of its DM7.26bn budget in space research.

That was an increase of about 8.5 per cent on 1984 but, he added, it was not enough to fund major investments in the future.

Roughly half the DM816m will be invested in Esa projects with which other European countries are associated.

A decision is due to be reached at Ministerial level at an Esa Council meeting in November on who is to take part in the Columbus project.

Plans have so far been drawn up by Erno in Bremen and by the Italians. A decision is also due on Ariane 5, a new model of the European launcher rocket designed to put payloads of up to nine hundredweight into orbit.

The Bremen plans for a European share in a joint Euro-US project are based on a Spacelab-style module to be docked into an American station.

"On the drawing-board the module has already been named Columbus," said project manager Manfred Baune, outlining the technical concept. "1992 will be the 500th anniversary of Columbus's discovery of America."

Plans partly financed by the Bonn Ministry entail a variety of concepts and costs.

"Nasa is at present fairly open-minded on new ideas," Greger said. America was still in the process of defining plans for its space station. They weren't due to be finalised until 1986.

Others, such as Western Europe, Canada and Japan, were being encouraged to work alongside the United States. Cooperation need not and could not be finalised until the end of this so-called B phase.

The Americans plan to invest roughly $10bn in infrastructure for their space station in the next 10 years. If the Europeans docked in their module they would be expected to foot about 20 per cent of the bill, or roughly $2bn.

While admitting that wasn't cheap, Herr Greger pointed out that the United States would gain an intolerable edge over Europe if the Europeans were to decide against joining in. "On our own," he said, "we aren't going to get a space station airborne for lack of funds for one."

A public discussion has taken shape on whether a space station is worthwhile. Herr Greger and representatives of the DFVLR and the aerospace industry have their answer at the ready.

Nothing less than a permanent laboratory in outer space, they argue, can supply the findings industry needs on new materials and processes.

Government, research and industrial experts refer to the various opportunities of linking up with existing space flight projects that would be available.

Preliminary programmes were available at fairly low cost for rockets and autonomous payloads for the space shuttle, code-named Texus and Maus respectively.

Both were aimed at autonomous, technical and materials experiments in microgravitation. They were experiment programmes ideally suited for preparing to use Spacelab.

That was of overriding importance for all decisions on a space station.

The cost to Germany of running a space station, so far estimated at between $700m and $1bn, might then be recouped.

W. Wessendorf

(Die Welt, 13 July 1984)

An arctic island holds key to the summer that never was

A team of scientists from three countries is trying to find out why the summer in north Germany was cold and rainy.

Key to their research is an island in the Arctic called Jan Mayen.

Whenever Jan Mayen Island is ice-free by April, as it was this year, north Germany gets a terrible summer.

The link has long been known, but no one knows whether pack ice melting near Greenland is the cause or the effect of the weather.

Seven research vessels from Norway, the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany have joined forces for five weeks in the Marginal Ice Zone Experiment.

A hundred and eighty research scientists have been probing climatic, biological, physical and chemical issues. They hope to be able to report their findings in two years.

One of the German research ships was the 1,345-grt *Valdivia*, owned and run by Hamburg University.

She is a converted trawler built in 1961 and engaged in research work for the past two years. On her latest mission she spent 38 days at sea with a crew of 37, including 16 scientists.

The operational area was the Fram strait, between western Spitzbergen and north-east Greenland. Temperatures were mostly around zero centigrade, but on four summer days they went up to 23° C in a matter of hours.

Three of the Hamburg scientists were women, and as there were only double cabins, one was quartered in the ship's sick bay. But there was no question of illness; all three were fighting fit, says project manager Detlef Quadfasel.

Professor Hans Hinzpeter, head of the department of meteorology at Hamburg University, has announced that the climate research programme is to be continued for a further 10 to 12 years. The extent of marine pollution is also to be monitored. The *Valdivia* is to set sail again in August with weather men on board. This time she will be bound for the North Sea and for Norwegian fjords.

Scientists have only been able to identify sources of pollution in a single case so far. Radioactive caesium found near Spitzbergen definitely comes from Windscale, the British Nuclear Fuels facility by the Irish Sea.

From there it finds its way not only into the North Sea and the Atlantic but into the Arctic too.

Identifying the culprits in other cases is less easy. "We know," Professor Hinzpeter says, "where the smokestacks are all round the North Sea, but we can't say for sure who is to blame for specific pollution."

He suggests keeping a closer watch on static emission but is reluctant to offer politicians advice. "We publish our research findings," he says. "It is for them to arrive at conclusions."

That also goes for a biological finding: the fact that the "biological output" of the sea is much higher than assumed near the pack ice line, with enormous amounts of plankton being produced.

Plankton would normally be the staple diet of Arctic whales, but there aren't enough of them left.

The obvious answer is to ban whaling until the population has stabilised and then to allow only an agreed number of whales a year to be caught.

The five-week mission in Arctic waters cost DM1.7m. If all the findings are evaluated and put to use the expense is sure to have been worthwhile.

Long-range weather forecasting may be improved. Steps could be taken to combat marine pollution. Even the last remaining whales might be saved.

D. F. Hertel

(Die Welt, 30 July 1984)

■ THE ARTS

Dance workshop: touch of India and the Caribbean

In its twelfth season the International Dance Workshop in Bonn has undergone a clear change in both performers and aesthetic concept.

Fred Traguth has gradually abandoned the original summer festival idea and now holds training courses during all main holiday seasons.

He personally concentrates on his own speciality, jazz dancing and lesser-known styles of modern dancing such as the José Limon and Lester Horton techniques.

All differ substantially from the classical ideals of Western ballet.

This summer the range of activities has been extended to include a percussion workshop and classes in Afro-Caribbean and Indian dancing (Kuchipudi).

Traguth held a small festival of Indian dancing in the Bonncenter theatre as



Dance, Bharat natyam style
(Photo: Fred Traguth)

part of the first week of this summer's Dance Workshop season.

A number of well-known soloists he would like to have starred were unable to attend because of a last-minute shortage of funds.

But the festival gave a clear idea to Western audiences what Indian dancing is like and how the various styles differ.

The beauty and variety of regional styles were impressively demonstrated by performances of Bharat natyam, Manipuri, Kuchipudi and Kathak dancing.

Kathak, a North Indian variety, is felt to be particularly stylish. It is certainly entertaining even to an outsider.

But Kamalini and Nalini, the Delhi sisters, who have been on tour with their musicians for nine months, greatly exaggerate the entertainment aspect.

Their dancing has developed into a show routine, and a guru who dances with them transforms the performance into an unwitting parody of itself.

There can be no doubt that the Delhi sisters, led by Kamalini, with Nalini not always quite sure of herself but skilfully following in her sister's footsteps, are virtuoso dancers.

Their arm and leg movements, with hands outstretched as they turn, are exact and precise. But their dancing has little to do with Kathak in its original form.

The duplication effect of the two sisters performing identical routines side by side tends to distract the audience'sa interest from the content and expression of the dancing to the brilliance with which it is performed.

In their finale they and their guru uninhibitedly appeal to the Western public, using every conceivable subterfuge to earn rhythmic applause.

They dispense with essentials of Indian dancing in an acrobatic display designed to appeal to their audience, sad to say.

That cannot be said of Krishnaveni Lakshmanan and Ranga Vivekanandan, dancing Bharat natyam and Kuchipudi respectively.

Both clearly testify to deep roots in tradition dating back to about 1000 BC and Bharat Muni's Natyashastra. The religious origin of Indian dancing is always apparent in their dancing.

Bharat natyam, a style preserved in and around Madras in South India, is *the* classical variety of Indian dancing.

It retells the same tales from Indian mythology as other styles of dancing but does so from an incomparably statelier basic stance. It is much more strict and concentrated than, say, Kathak, Orissi or Kuchipudi.

The narrative and non-narrative (i.e. dancing only) sections are more clearly distinct. The stance is more stately, movements are slower and more sparing.

Krishnaveni, who is rightly held in international repute, makes Bharat natyam a regal event.

Her dancing is highly stylised and outstanding in its perfection and self-control: from the sparing leg movements to the mudras she describes with her arms.

The rhythmic mimicry of her face and neck must not be forgotten either. It culminates in minute but clear and abrupt movements of her eyes and eyebrows.

Ranga's Kuchipudi is not only faster-moving in comparison, especially in leg movements; it is also more graceful.

That is hardly surprising. Kuchipudi, which comes from Andra Pradesh in Central India, was originally performed mainly by men and has only lately been learnt by women.

Gestures in the parts of the choreography, interspersed with passages of pure dancing, that continue the narrative, accompanied by the orchestral "vocal," in Kuchipudi come close to what in the West is understood by mime.

The meaning of arm and finger positions, each precisely laid down, is readily apparent.

Ranga Vivekanandan, who comes from Colombo and learnt her Kuchipudi in Madras, has no need to seek her audienoe's good graces. Kuchipudi is gentler and more appealing than Bharat natyam.

In Bharat natyam the dancing seems to progress from one strict, frozen pose to the next, whereas Kuchipudi appears to glide in leisurely fashion. It is attractive and supple, and less regal and detached than Bharat natyam.

Performed by supreme artists such as Krishnaveni and Ranga, both styles of dancing convey more than just an idea of a great civilisation.

It is a civilisation that is given finest and most human expression in its classical dances spanning more than three millenia.

Jochen Schmidt
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 25 July 1984)



Budda head in red sandstone, from first half of 5th century AD.

Stone gods without feet of clay — a Hindu pantheon

The Hindu pantheon is enormous and unaccustomed yet striking and strangely immediate in its appeal.

Visitors to the exhibition of Sculpture from India at the Munich ethnology museum are surrounded by gods and goddesses in stone, bronze, wood and ivory.

Many have a familiar look. They resemble the gods and heroes of Ancient Greek tales.

Like Hercules they kill buffaloes with a blow of the hand. Like Apollo they perform cosmic dances in a ring of flames. Like Artemis they wear the crescent moon emblem in their hair.

Theirs is an exciting and alien world and yet a world strangely familiar. It is a step in the direction of an aesthetic area to which Western art is still busy sounding out.

The exhibition has been arranged in honour of Munich art collector Robert Gedon, 75. Many exhibits are from his collection.

Gedon is a connoisseur of India who has sought and bought Indian works of art with idealism and passion for decades. He has donated much of his collection to the state.

His art treasures from South and South-East Asia readily stand comparison with the collection left to San Francisco by Avery Brundage, another great collector of art from this part of the world.

Most of the Munich exhibits illustrate the various eras of Indian art. The variety of styles is no less entrancing than the superb powers of artistic and religious expression to which they all testify.

The earliest are stone statues from Mathura in North India, including a laughing Buddha in red sandstone dating back to about 143 AD.

He once sat cross-legged meditating on a pedestal, flanked by two accompanying figures. The pedestal and one of the figures no longer exist, while only the torso and head of Buddha survive.

Yet what is left of the statue clearly indicates the main stylistic features of the Mathura school in the early Kushan period, especially the wide-open eyes and smiling mouth.

One of the most valuable exhibits is a tiny votive tablet only 20cm tall. It dates back to the second half of the fourth century and is one of the earliest illustrations of Ganesh, the elephant god.

It was first mentioned in 1936 by Getty in his *Ganèsa - A Monograph on the Elephant-Faced God*. Getty feels it may be the earliest surviving Ganesh.

Works from Gandhara, which is now in Afghanistan and Pakistan, are also on show in Munich. They likewise date back to the early centuries of the Christian era.

A fourth century AD stone relief portrays the birth of Buddha, who is reputed to have sprung from the right hip of Queen Maya. These works show signs of Roman influence.

A small pantheon dedicated to the various appearances of Shiva and Vishnu includes richly decorated bronze altars.

They feature Shiva with a crescent moon in his hair and dancing in a ring of fire and Shiva carrying the hourglass drum. They are wonderfully mature works of sculpture, perfect in design and deportment.

Veneration of such images is still an important part of daily religious ritual in South India.

The ivory work for which India is famous is equally delightful. Vasco da Gama

Continued on page 14



Laughing Buddha in red sandstone, from about 140 AD.
(Photos: Staatl. Museum für Völkerkunde, München)

■ FACES FROM THE PAST

Max Taut, architect with a social conscience

West Berlin's Academy for the Arts has a special reason for remembering the 100th anniversary of the birth of architect Max Taut.

He was the younger brother of the architect Bruno Taut, who died on Christmas Day 1938 in Istanbul. In 1955 Max Taut took over the newly founded institute and headed the architecture department until he died in February 1967.

In the summer of 1964 his considerable productivity was honoured by a retrospective exhibition, managed by Julius Posener. This retrospective in the eightieth year of his life documented his work mainly in photographs and models.

The anniversary exhibition concentrates on the drawings he left on his death.

The drawings in pencil and pen and water colour break up the monochrome aspect of the show. Achim Wendschuh who arranged the exhibition and produced the catalogue, said the drawings were of special importance to Taut's work. He said: "They were his language, his favourite form of expression."

Max Taut, who was the only member of the utopian group Gläsern Kette (Glass chain) founded in 1919, in his later years returned to visionary themes.

In 1962 emerged the drawing Luftschloß (castle in the air) reminiscent of Karl Friedrich Schinkel's *Orianda*, and in 1962 a spiritualised image of the Berlin church that carried the marginal note *Dunkler Stern* (darker star). The rationalist defender of the concrete skeleton method of building had a private inner life, a secret potential for fantasy.

In the peak years of German architecture, when his powers were not fully challenged he became a discreet supporter.

Max Taut came from Königsberg where before he went to study architecture he learned to be a carpenter. He won a gold medal at the III German Craftsmen's Exhibition in Dresden in 1906 for a working man's home including the interior decoration.

He was again awarded a gold medal at the 1913 International Architecture Exhibition in Leipzig for the temporary steel buildings of the "Werdandi-Bundes", a group of reforming architects.



Max Taut . . . secret potential for fantasy

This short-lived association concentrated on the utilisation of modern building materials, and Max Taut seemed to be the right man to show that "concrete, iron, wood, cement and face brick could look good when correctly and appropriately used."

After the war in 1919, as a member of *Gläsern Kette* he produced drawings for a revolving house. It was designed for a site in dunes in Courland. Its crystalline dome was to end up in a tip of red glass and break up the light by rotation.

In the year of the founding of Novembergruppe and Arbeitsrat für Kunst (advisory council for art) — Max Taut belonged to both — the only things produced were the coloured zygomaatic arch spanning the Wissinger family vault in Berlin's Stahnsdorf cemetery and the first terraced houses in the Eichkamp housing estate.

Taut, the architect with a social conscience, himself lived in one of these houses after the Second World War.During the Third Reich, Taut, who had reached the peak of his powers, only completed four small houses. He withdrew to Brandenburg where his wife's family came from.

In 1945, when he was 61, he was appointed to the Berlin-Charlottenburg architecture university by Karl Hofer, where he established a "building and architecture school".

Between 1947 and 1949 he was responsible for private housing in the Institute for Architecture of the German Academy of the Sciences, headed by Hans Scharoun.

In the following years he was not only active in Berlin (homes and a children's home), he built a school (gymnasium) in Darmstadt, in Bonn (Reuter settlement) a workers' welfare centre and in Duisburg-Hamborn a housing estate for miners.

In 1960 the quiet reformer who never quite became the crème de la crème of modern architecture publicly confessed: "The greatest we can achieve is to unite the internal with the external. Then we shall not need to talk any more about beauty for it will be a foregone conclusion."

In the 1920s the trade unions and worker associations gave their attention to the gifted brother of the idealistic Bruno Taut, fired with building programmes.

Before he was forbidden to build by the Nazis he built the administrative building of the General German Trades Union in Berlin-Mitte, the association building for German book printers in Kreuzberg, two school complexes in Lichtenberg and Köpenick.

In 1930 the administative building of the society of miners was ready. The steel skeleton of the house was accentuated by hard brick and ceramics. Incomprehensively the building authorities do not allow this building to be seen today. It has amazingly survived the war and forty years. Its outer covering shows few signs of wear and tear.

The General German Trade Union building has also aged well.

The bakery of the cooperative building in Spandau of this period of Taut's work was badly damaged by bombs during the war and was later pulled down. In 1929/1932 for the same clients Taut built a warehouse in Oranienplatz in Kreuzberg that is today used as offices.

Camilla Blechen
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 July 1984)

Hall and stairwell in Max Taut's miner's association administration building in Berlin, 1930.
(Photos: Catalogue)

Emil Jannings, first German film anti-hero

Emil Jannings' name instantly brings to mind the image of Professor Unrat in the smoke-filled bar in *Blue Angel* staring at Marlene Dietrich's beautiful legs with a passion that eventually brought about his downfall.

But Emil Jannings, the anniversary of whose birth one hundred years ago was the 23rd July, is much more than the one role that made him world-famous. He was one of the few film stars who was in the industry from the beginning of silent films and whose artistry was large enough to make the leap unharmed into talkies.

He was born in Roschach in Switzerland Theodor Friedrich Emil Janenz. He was not destined from the cradle for the stage. His family had settled in Görlitz in Silesia, but he left his good middle-class home when he was 16 and went to sea, plying between Hamburg and London, before he attached himself to a a provincial company that toured the villages.

But he did not remain there long. His talent made him so famous that Max Reinhardt heard of him and invited him to his famous troup in Berlin. In 1914 when he made his film debute with little success in *Poor Eva, a passionate diary* he was one of the best German stage actors of the time.

In the 1920s he made a number of historic or literary films for UFA, many directed by Ernst Lubitsch, who later went to Hollywood as a director and created a furore there. Jannings played *Nero* and *Danton*, triumphed as Mephisto in *Faust*, as Othello and Peter the Great. He played in *The Brothers Karamazov*, in *Quo Vadis* and *Variete*.

Then Hollywood that was making film history called and Jannings, the man with the powerful figure and the expressive face obeyed the call.

In 1927 he was awarded the first Oscar for his performance in *The way of all Flesh*—, based on the novel by Somerset Maugham.

But the American dream did not last long. His strong German accent in English did not survive the change-over to talkies in the USA in 1929.

But a year later he succeeded in Germany. The *Blue Angel* is about the fall of the despotic Professor Unrat who is enslaved by the night-club girl Lola. From then on Jannings was confirmed as a "film character".



Emil Jannings as the lavatory attendant in *Der letzte Mann*
(Photo: Interpress)

He played the character of the upright citizen who, because of wicked passions, is brought to ruin out of preference.

From 1933 onwards Jannings placed his talent at the service of the Nazis. As an enthusiastic advocate of Nazis teaching he played in UFA films that were championed by Propaganda Minister Josef Goebbels to prepare for war and to justify the persecution of th Jews.

Jannings, given the title of "Reich Culture Senator" and "State Actor" brought about his own downfall after the war. The Occupying Powers refused to "de-Nazify" him and he was offered no engagements.

In 1950 the first German film anti-hero died alone and forgotten at Strobl on the Wolfgangsee.

dpa
(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 20 July 1984)

■ CONSERVATION

Arab cash spur to illegal traffic in falcons

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Police raided homes, farms and business premises in 14 US states and three Canadian provinces confiscating documents and dozens of trucks, cars and planes and arresting and interrogating 35 people.

They were accused of stealing hundreds of falcons, falcon's eggs and other listed birds, such as eagles and owls, to smuggle them via Europe to the Middle East.

Two of the arrested men were West Germans. One, a 22-year-old Cologne man, is probably a major culprit. In Washington D.C. an official says further arrests are likely.

Operation Falcon began in 1981 in Canada when caged birds bound for the United States were discovered in Cambridge, Ontario. It was soon clear the police had come across part of an international illegal trade, so they decided to take a closer look.

For three years under-cover agents were sent in to make contact with the suspects. Police and wild life protection agencies in the United States now feel the trade has finally been dealt an effective blow.

Police say at least 400 birds of prey, mainly from northern Canada, were flown into the United States on board private planes.

They are then smuggled via West Germany to the Near and Middle East to the courts of Arab princes and oil sheikhs who are keen huntsmen.

"They're extremely keen on falcons trained in Germany," a dealer explains. Young birds stolen from breeding grounds all over the world are trained by German falconers before being sold to wealthy buyers.

Joseph Platt of the Sulman-Falken-Zentrum is one of three German falcon experts who work for Arab rulers. He estimates that about 2,000 newly-caught birds are needed every autumn.

They replace the falcons lost during the hunting season and released in spring.

He also attributes losses to disease and describes efforts to combat infection among birds kept in unsatisfactory conditions.

In Arabia falcons are even drugged to influence their hunting instincts. But not all birds reach their destination, of course.

A US Interior Department official says an estimated half the birds caught and eggs stolen from the nest fail to survive the journey to their customers.

US government agencies and officials in many countries that are parties to the Washington wild life protection agreement have long regarded the Federal Republic of Germany as the country where thousands of rare birds disappear.

Birds particularly hard hit by the illegal trade are species on the verge of extinction and for which there is a demand among feudal huntsmen.

International organisations have called on the German authorities to plug the gap and take effective action against known dealers, but the response so far has been a combination of fine words and flops.

Klaus Matthiesen, the newly-appointed Agriculture Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, was keen to earn his environmental spurs. Early this year, to the dismay of investigating officials, he publicly named the chief suspects.

The German police may be looking into the matter, but nowhere near as energetically as law enforcement agencies in North America.

For years leading nature conservation associations in the Federal Republic have called for a countrywide police flying squad to track down the international trade in smuggling listed wild life species. But not, so far, to any effect.

Two Cologne brothers were discovered at Cologne-Bonn airport in October 1982 with smuggled birds. So, last year, was their father, who is said to have arranged for six falcons to be flown from Frankfurt to the Middle East as diplomats' luggage.

But such cases as come to light make painfully slow progress through the courts.

"A number of string-pullers in the German trade," says an investigating official, "resort to the technique successfully used by US gangsters. Their lawyers bombard the authorities and investigating officials with lawsuits and complaints.



Sheikh hands . . . a falcon in its new home (Photo: A...)

"That leads to proceedings dragging on endlessly to less and less purpose, and eventually time takes its toll. Everyone is sick and tired of the case and the accused get off with paltry fines."

In Cologne last year, just before the hunting season began, a very rich oil sheikh with important political connections bought three dozen falcons on the black market.

The Cologne suspect whose son is now in custody in the United States is reputed to have been the dealer. The German authorities were tipped off but were reluctant to intervene. Random checks of German falcon dealers were made, but they came too late.

The Arab sheikh seemed to enjoy political immunity in Germany. He was out of reach of the law. For economic reasons the police were instructed to leave him alone.

The Bonn Foreign Office is reliably reported to have intervened and requested the sheikh to agree to an inspection of the contents of his jumbo jet on the runway at Cologne-Bonn airport.

But he refused, and the jumbo took off unchecked with a full cargo of valuables, including birds of prey.

A dealer who bought fast cars and birds for the sheikh shortly afterwards confirmed they had been bought, but said they were bought from another middle-man, not the Cologne suspect.

All the birds kept by a wealthy Abu Dhabi family, he said, came from Germany and were trained on a range kept by someone in the sheikh's service.

On being told that falcons weren't trained on that particular range, he irritably replied: "Of course they are." The owner was going into the business in a big way. He himself had seen the ... facilities there.

Ties between the range-owner in the Eifel hills, south of Bonn, and the Cologne dealer (known in the trade as the "Fast Breeder") are not what they were.

The dealer's foreign connections ... his sons' activities grew too well-known. The range-owner decided to have less ... do with him.

The Cologne dealer even wrote ... newspapers in connection with reports of falcons being bought in Aachen and Cologne on the sheikh's behalf claiming innocence.

The range didn't belong to the sheikh. The sheikh had bought no falcons from the range's stock. He personally ... nothing to do with illegal trading ... birds.

Yet the Fast Breeder has long ... close business ties with the sheikh. ... used to tend the sheikh's injured birds in his zoo.

So who sold the sheikh his birds? The Cologne Fast Breeder, as a Middle Eastern source claims? Or the E... range, as a German informer says? ... maybe both?

A German falcon's egg thief in jail ... Iceland says the eight gyrfalcon's eggs he was caught with were ordered ... several of the main suspects in the Cologne area.

The authorities were again bombarded with affidavits in which the accused claimed to have nothing to ... with the illegal trade.

The authorities are now wondering who may have been trying to sh... whom. The Fast Breeder is known to ...

Continued on page 14

■ MEDICINE

Illness and what goes on inside the head

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

...lin doctor Bernhard Kubanek spent some time in hospital after an ...dent. It was the hospital he had ...ed in as a specialist in internal medicine for 12 years. He described his ...ation as follows:

"I was seriously ill and could move ... my head and hands to any extent without experiencing pain. Otherwise I ... totally dependent on the help of ...ers.

"It is a situation in which you are ex...ely sensitive to the way in which we ...tors often treat patients. You simply ...left in the lurch.

"Where technical solutions are re...ed and possible, medical care is ex...lent. The way the surgeons fixed up ... complicated hip fracture was admir..., and enormous progress has been ...e in this field.

"But anything that extends further, ... affects the patient and how he ...es to terms with his situation no ... interests the medical profession."

...so Professor Kubanek says, and ... comments are revealing in several ...ects.

...st, they show that in any illness, ... a broken bone, mental processes ... always involved, as another doctor ...s. You can't hand it in at the por...'s lodge or hang it on a hook in the ...ing-room.

Second, they show that conventional-trained doctors obviously stand to ...fit from personal experience as a ...ent to gain an important skill all ...d doctors have: the ability to visualise the patient's position.

Professor Kubanek's comments are ... from an extremely readable book, ...n Pillen allein nicht helfen (When ... Alone Don't Help), recently published in paperback by Knaur, the Mu... publishers.

Medical journalist Jürgen-Peter ...sel deals in an unusually interesting ... with "Experiences in Psychosomatic Medicine," to quote the sub-title.

But he starts with a frank outline of ... own experiences as a patient with ...entional medicine, which invar...ly concentrates on the illness rather ... on the patient.

"I had personally experienced the ...comings of an approach to medi...," he writes, "in which people are ... considered as individuals with ... and social ties."

Psychosomatics aims in contrast at a ... view of "soma" and "psyche," body ... soul, differentiation between the ... being a drawback of school medi...

Stössel has held lengthy discussions ... doctors who are dissatisfied with ... dividing line and would like to prac... medicine geared to the needs of the ...ent.

He quotes some of these talks in full, ...h is part of the attraction of an ex...ly readable and informative work ...non-fiction combining aspects of the ...el and the documentary.

It is written in such a skilful way that ... reader feels he is in on the action as ... book takes shape.

You learn easily and without difficulty as you read it just what psychosomatics is. It isn't a special medical sideline dealing with specifically "psychosomatic" complaints such as ulcers, asthma and anorexia nervosa.

That, of course, is the view conventional medicine would prefer to take of it because pigeonholing it in this way doesn't upset the established medical order.

But psychosomatics is an approach suitable for all branches of medicine that aims to do the patient greater justice than he gets at present.

A few friendly words and gestures are not enough. Stössel makes it clear that a medicine limited to its (admittedly indispensable) scientific groundwork cannot be called human, especially as it is growing increasingly expensive without necessarily becoming more effective.

"To deny a relationship between experience and illness, not just to psychoneurosis, would be to see nature through blinkers that are no longer tolerable," Stössel writes, quoting Gustav von Bergmann.

He was not one of the many people Stössel interviewed. Bergmann, a well-known German specialist in internal medicine, has been dead for 30 years, but the blinkers are still in use.

What does an unblinkered approach to medicine look like? In diagnosis as much attention must be paid in talks with the patient to mental and social factors that may contribute toward physical symptoms of sickness as to conventional medical or laboratory tests.

Various scientific studies have shown that the origin and course of the complaints from which patients in internal wards suffer are mentally influenced in between 30 and 60 per cent of cases.

The percentage is probably higher among patients who attend general practitioners' surgeries, especially those who suffer from functional upsets without organic changes, such as certain forms of racing heartbeat or shortage of breath, diarrhoea and constipation, headaches and stomach aches.

Yet patients treated by "blinkered" medical methods are sent round the expensive diagnostic treadmill for so long that they firmly believe they are chronically ill.

In treatment psychosomatics means that someone who is "only" physically ill must not be regarded as "the fractured hip in Ward Seven."

What is more, there must be no tinkering with the symptoms when the causes of physical upsets such as high blood pressure need closer scrutiny.

They are often due to living conditions or the patient's outlook or behaviour, and his complaints must be taken seriously. He derives no benefit from being airily dismissed with the comment "There's nothing much wrong with you" or "It's your nerves, you know."

He really is suffering, but he merely projects psychosocial suffering on to the body, which a body-fixated school medicine encourages.

Stössel quotes as a cynical medic's remark: "Access to the patient is via the veins." Yet when pills alone no longer help, an injection will not always do the trick either.

Access to the patient via empathy, as the grand old man of German psychosomatics, Thure von Uexküll, calls it, goes virtually untaught in all medical training courses.

Failure to teach beginners empathy makes it extremely difficult for them and others later to practise a psychosomatic approach to the patient.

Resistance to change in the medical profession is still too strong, as Stössel says, naming names.

He is knowledgeable and committed, and well aware of shortcomings in psychosomatics too. His book deserves to be read by politicians as well as everyone who has anything to do with medicine, either professionally or in private life.

It has a great deal to say about the "expensive idling of present-day processing of the sick."

Rosemarie Stein

(Der Tagesspiegel, 25 July 1984)

Nicotine, a powerful monkey to have on your back

Smokers are not just caught in the grip of a vice; they are addicted, says a Düsseldorf sociologist, Professor K.-D. Stumpfe.

If you stop smoking you suffer from substantial withdrawal symptoms, he says, having checked their progress over several days in about 500 people who tried to break the habit.

In the *Münchner Medizinische Wochenschrift* he compares smokers with heroin addicts, saying between 30 and 40 per cent of patients suffered from serious withdrawal symptoms in the first four days after stopping smoking.

The degree of these symptoms was unrelated to the length of time they had smoked or their previous level of nicotine consumption.

Edgy nerves headed the list, being complained of by nearly half the ex-smokers on the first day.

Then came tiredness and exhaustion (33.6 per cent), headaches (27 per cent), absent-mindedness, insomnia, dizziness, hot flushes, coughs and muscle cramps.

Complaints declined strikingly day by day, but about one person in four still complained of one symptom or another on the fourth day.

The only symptom that did not subside during the first four days was the keener appetite reported by 35 per cent of the sample.

On the first day 10 per cent of patients reported no withdrawal symptoms. By the fourth day their number had increased to 30 per cent.

For 5.4 per cent of patients the desire for a smoke subsided on the first day. By the fourth day nearly one in five no longer felt the desire. But 41 per cent still did, and very strongly.

In spite of their various complaints 30 per cent of ex-smokers said they felt extremely well on the first day, increasing to 65 per cent by the fourth day.

On the first day about 14 per cent felt in bad shape, but by Day 4 their number was down to four per cent.

Complications did not cease entirely for a fortnight, Professor Stumpfe said. But the desire for a smoke can resurface months or even years later.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 25 July 1984)

Using molecular biology to study cancer

Molecular biology has made headway lately in finding out how cancer comes about. Tumours are mainly caused by onco-genes, US biochemist Severo Ochoa told the 34th conference of Nobel laureates in Lindau.

The genetic substance of a number of viruses and retro-viruses extracts from infected cells genetic components that undergo change.

In this process, or mutation, they are transformed into genes that cause cancer.

Experiments with cell cultures from animal and human tumours had shown, Professor Ochoa said, that over a dozen cell genes are closely related to the cancer genes of various kinds of a virus that triggers tumours in mice.

Professor Ochoa, who was born in Spain, was awarded the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1959 for manufacturing nucleic acids.

Cancer, he said, took shape in several stages. As he explained it, at least two different genetic products are needed to transform normal cultured cells into cancer cells.

Professor Werner Arber, Basle, said it was impossible to predetermine all life processes at the molecular level. Genetic matter was not as stable as had been assumed. Unforeseen developments could occur at the molecular level.

Professor Arber referred to the element of coincidence, which was clearly apparent in spite of the unrestricted validity of the laws of nature.

Referring to the issue of whether life in all its forms was predetermined or not, he mentioned the "bacteria-eating" lambda virus, a cannibal that attaches itself to single cells and injects its genetic material into the alien organism.

Two possibilities then arise. In seven out of 10 cases the virus flourishes in its new host and is able to attack other bacteria. In the remaining 30 per cent, this process is suppressed and the virus's genetic material incorporated in the bacteria, which becomes a hybrid.

The probability of one or the other happening could not be predicted, he said. Similar coincidences occur in connection with so-called restriction enzymes.

Professor Arber was awarded the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1978 for discovering these "substances indispensable in modern genetic research."

Restriction enzymes, which organise resistance to alien genetic substance like chemical scalpels, work extremely exactly, but not always at the same spot. The element of coincidence recurs.

Nuclear medicine is threatened by a widespread fear of radiation, Professor Rosalyn Yalow, New York, told the Lindau conference:

"The risks are exaggerated and the benefits of employing radioactive methods are played down."

She was scathing in her criticism of the "irresponsible coverage in part of the mass media." She would like to make it clear to everyone that a certain level of background radiation has always existed.

Existing elements and a great many building blocks in our bodies emitted radiation, she said.

dpa

(Bremer Nachrichten, 21 July 1984)

■ MODERN LIVING

Postage stamp boom is finally licked: collecting becomes a hobby again

For many years, the two million stamp collectors in the Federal Republic of Germany could claim that their often lightly dismissed hobby was not only a rewarding leisure activity but also an excellent way to invest money.

There were few other investments which paid so well.

The first standard issue in the Federal Republic was the Posthorn in 1951. The series of 16 cost five marks and four pfennigs. Thirty years later, the catalogue value of the set was DM9,000.

Other stamps to go through boom times included most post-war issues in West Germany and West Berlin and issues dating from the time of the Kaiser for German states like Saxony and Baden.

But the boom days have gone. Over the past three years, the "small man's

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

share portfolio" has lost value drastically. Catalogue value of all mint issues between 1949 and 1980 in West Germany was almost DM21,000 in 1981. By this year it had fallen nearly 25 per cent to DM15,600.

Jürgen Ehrlich, head of the federal organisation of the German stamp trade, explains that speculation had pushed the price of stamps high at the end of the 1970s.

Speculators from outside the industry had tried to buy up everything that had a rarity value, both German and foreign. The result was an excessive overpricing.

At the beginning of the 1980s, as money interest rates went sky high, the bottom suddenly dropped out of the stamps market and demand slumped.

In order to remain fluid, the speculators threw the stamps on to the market. Prices fell heavily, sometimes to as low as 50 per cent of their old value.

One example: a set of five Theodor Heuss stamps issued in 1959 are now valued at DM55. In 1982 they were worth more than DM100.

The Federation of German Philatelists (BDPh), which has about 1,500 affiliated clubs with about 8,000 members, says: "Prices are once again realistic. This has sorted out the wheat from the chaff."

Stamp collecting can be expensive and membership of stamp clubs went into decline during the boom years.

According to a survey, every second collector spends 50 marks a month on the hobby and one in every four 100 marks. The stamp business is worth about two billion marks a year, including accessories such as albums, tweezers and equipment to find water marks.

Now that the all-clear on the price front has been sounded, the clubs are hoping that the decline in membership will come to a halt. It is clear that, at a time of general economic recession, stamp collecting had become just too expensive for many. A lot of collectors, for example, are pensioners.

The Bundespost has also been affected by the slump. Just a few years ago, about 860,000 collectors regularly were sent new issues, sometimes two of each. It costs about 80 marks a year for all the new West German and West Berlin sets.

But the number of subscribers has dropped to about 800,000 and the Bundespost is trying to win them back.

Stamps are not just a means of projecting the national image. They are also a lucrative business. Because some new issues go directly into collector's albums, many issuing countries see it as a way of making a lot of money.

Small states like Monaco, San Marino and the Vatican have limited stamp needs themselves, but they sell a lot of sets.

Citizens of Lichtenstein, for example, pay little tax because their treasury makes so much from selling stamps.

Within reasonable limits, this does little harm. But the unfortunate truth is that some countries do not know where to draw the line.

Many developing nations and East European countries try to exploit collectors. East Germany is an example.

Every year it issues nearly 100 st[...] in high numbers although there i[...] need for them in postal terms.

Interest is beginning to wane no[...] cause of the cost and relative insig[...] ance of the stamps.

There is, of course, still a good [...] for collectors. Ehrlich points out [...] DM4,000 for the Posthorn set stil[...] resents a good increase in value.

But only a few stamps now have real value, and these are older ones.

Collectors who have been asse[...] ing complete collections for, say, [...] years, are often stunned to find how little cash they are offered. T[...] have failed to see the increasing d[...] inance of supply over demand and [...] lowed themselves to be misled by ca[...] logue prices.

Catalogue prices are set by the de[...] ers themselves and are not an i[...] pendent estimate. Anyone buying [...] stamp from a dealer should expect [...] pay the catalogue price, perhaps wi[...] 10 per cent rebate.

And only about 30 per cent of [...] catalogue value can be expected [...] sale to the dealer. That means tha[...] pfennig stamp bought in 1965 and [...] with a catalogue value of 60 pfenni[...] sold for well under the original [...] the-counter price.

A complete collection of all W[...] German stamps, a rare thing, still [...] catalogue value of DM15,000, [...] would get probably half that at m[...]

In most cases, the amateur inv[...] is just that: he doesn't make m[...] Only stamps that retain their va[...] certain areas of high demand, [...] which are obtained cheaply, are [...] day sold at a profit. There are no [...] with other forms of investment, re[...] returns.

Anyone starting a collection [...] should recognise stamp collecti[...] what it is: not a way of making m[...] but an educational and enterta[...] leisure activity.

Jürgen Sussenbu[...]

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 7 Jul[...])

Continued from page 12

Icelandic authorities and no longer allowed into their country. Did he bribe the egg thief to accuse other dealers if anything went wrong?

Or is it all the handiwork of another dealer in Duisburg who is another of the Big Four? He is known to have little compunction in silencing accomplices.

The range-owner must be desperately anxious to avoid publicity, having just persuaded the local authorities to license his breeding facility. A higher regional authority is normally responsible for granting permission in such cases.

The Euskirchen range-owner has hired a former curator of Cologne Zoo, Professor Ernst Kullmann, as a scientific adviser.

Unfortunately for him, Professor Kullmann provides only limited scientific cover. He is an authority in his subject, but he specialises in spiders, not falcons.

Emil Bölte and Otto Lieb

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 14 July 1984)

Continued from page 10

and the first Europeans to visit India were spellbound by the magnificent ivory palace decorations and inlay work.

"In this building," Domingo Peas wrote in 1522, for instance, "there is a room with stone pillars that is totally clad in ivory from top to bottom, and everything is so finely worked — the finest of the fine."

The finest ivory exhibits in Munich include a 17th century throne pedestal worked in either Bengal or Orissa.

It has bas-relief work all round: a rider on horseback, the horse prancing, surrounded by other warriors, animals and floral arrangements.

The counterpart to this throne pedestal is the one in the Pan-Asia Collection in Los Angeles. It probably belonged to the same throne.

Finely chiselled to the highest quality, Indian woodwork can also be seen at its best. All wood exhibits date back to fairly recent periods.

Great artists in woodwork are still to be found in Western India, mainly in Gujarat.

They design artistic temple ceilings and panels for procession vehicles that are full of gods and their retinue. Their work testifies to a living tradition that has survived the technological age.

Rose-Marie Borngässer

(Die Welt, 28 July 1984)

An international meeting sorts out the mail

West Germany's Bundespost will have to pay out an extra 20 million marks a year under the agreement where imbalances in international postal income are compensated.

Mail compensation will now cost about DM6.70 per kilogramme instead of DM4.60.

The agreement is designed to balance out cost for countries which receive more mail than they send. Almost all Third World countries are on the wrong end of this imbalance.

Three quarters of the world's population live in the Third World, but they send only 15 per cent of all letters and 10 per cent of all parcels.

The new arrangement was worked out at the 19th world post congress in Hamburg, where about 1,000 delegates representing 145 of the 167 world postal association member states met.

During six weeks, the conference met 23 times and there were 75 sittings of 10 committees. It was the biggest international conference at government level ever in the Federal Republic.

It cost the host, the Bundespost, about 12 million marks. There were some 850 motions put, and these were translated into eight languages by 60 interpreters.

The world postal organisation was founded in 1874 in Bern, Switzerland, on the initiative of Heinrich von Stephan, the Prussian postmaster general. It meets every five years.

Decisions taken in Hamburg on international postal agreements will come into force at the beginning of 1986 after they have been ratified by member governments.

President of the congress, Winfried Florian, who is a state secretary at the Bonn Ministry of Posts, said it was an achievement that, in a world full of crises and political conflict, agreement could be reached in such an important area as posts so that the smooth running of the international postal system could be safeguarded.

The congress had, he said, set itself on improving the service for the customer throughout the world. A step had been taken towards achieving more and better communication between different peoples.

Among decisions reached:

NATIONAL post authorities can now increase maximum weight of a packet (as opposed to the larger parcel) from one to two kilos.

LETTERS may be inserted into packets.

COMPENSATION for lost packets is to be increased by 50 per cent.

CHANGES have been made to procedures for handling undeli[...] packets from foreign countries.

REGULATIONS covering post[...] cassettes for blind people are to be [...] eralised.

THE TON per kilometre rate for a[...] is to remain the same for five years, [...] means that airmail rates should not ch[...]

RULES designed to quicken clea[...] of parcels and packets through cust[...] were agreed.

Every year, 158 billion letters and p[...] cards are put in the mail througho[...] world plus 128 billion parcels and pi[...] of printed matter of various types. Ab[...] 40 per cent is posted in the USA.

In West Germany, each person [...] ceives on average 215 pieces of ma[...] year. Last year the Bundespost de[...] ered about 13 billion letters and m[...] than 265 million parcels.

There were several clashes of opi[...] during the conference. Several A[...] states unsuccessfully tried to have Is[...] excluded from the international orga[...] sation.

South Africa was excluded after [...] days of debate but the rules allow [...] readmission at any time.

The congress unanimously reje[...] some stamps which it regarded as ha[...] ing international understanding.

One was an Iranian stamp glorify[...] the American hostage affair in Tehra[...]

Others were several from Israel p[...] raying the occupied Golan Heights a[...] the West Bank of the Jordan.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27 July 1[...])

■ ARCHAEOLOGY

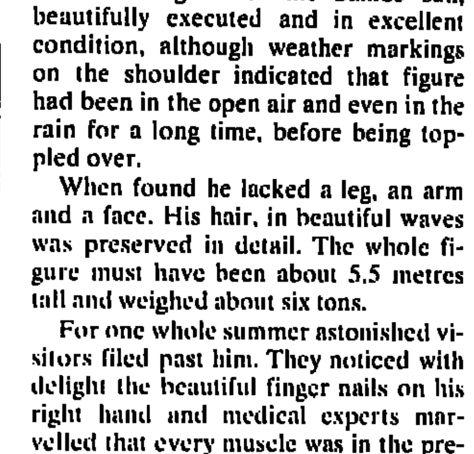
A very old youth demonstrates the skill of the ancient sculptor

Nostalgia plays a considerable role in the current interest in archaeo[...]gical matters. There is still the belief a [...]nder will emerge, that a scientific [...]sation will come to light.

But the fact is that this seldom hap[...]ns. Important finds in most cases only [...] a gap in an already well-known pic[...]re.

The report that on Samos the "head [...] a colossus" has been found is such a [...]sation.

The West German Archaeological In[...]tute in Athens has four digs in [...]eece, all from before the First World [...]ar, Olympia, Tiryns, the Kerameikos



[...] times life size at an original [...]ight of 5.2 metres (17 feet), this [...] of a youth was discovered in [...] in 1980. It dates from 570 BC. (Photo: DAI Athens)

[...] Athens and the Hera sanctuary on [...]os, known as the Heraion.

In spite of the length of time spent on [...] dig the dimensions of the Heraion [...] still not known.

This is because it is only possible to [...] where the land can be purchased.

It was particularly important for [...]cheologists to know the Propylon, the [...]trance gateway to the sanctuary [...]ough which at the annual festival to [...] the festival procession, coming [...]ng the holy road from the city of Sa[...]os, entered the sanctuary.

A stretch of the holy road to the east [...] the Heraion was uncovered a few [...]ars ago. It was very impressive, paved [...]h great blocks of stone and in excel[...] condition.

In 1979 an additional piece of land was purchased and the dig began in the summer of 1980. The Propylon was not found but deep down close to the paving an enormous stone was, that after cleaning provided to be the enormous figure of a youth lying face downwards.

The recovery of the figure weighing many tons and transporting it to the courtyard of the dig house, excited wonder at the artists in the sixth century before Christ who, with only the simplest technical aids succeeded in moving it.

The Youth, (the "Kouros) lay one summer long under the Samos sun, beautifully executed and in excellent condition, although weather markings on the shoulder indicated that figure had been in the open air and even in the rain for a long time, before being toppled over.

When found he lacked a leg, an arm and a face. His hair, in beautiful waves was preserved in detail. The whole figure must have been about 5.5 metres tall and weighed about six tons.

For one whole summer astonished visitors filed past him. They noticed with delight the beautiful finger nails on his right hand and medical experts marvelled that every muscle was in the precise place.

Archaelogists searched the find sheleves in which for some time there were pieces of marble that were "testimony of a colossal figure". And all was there!

In 1912 the lower right leg had been uncovered. In the ruins of a house on the beach a few locks of hair were found. In 1974 the left lower arm was discovered, broken into two parts and built into the theshold of a Byzantine house. The right upper limb had the inscription "His - ches Anetheken ho rhesious". The His - ches means "consecreted". The third word could be a mark of origin or the paternal name. The figure came from anonymity, with this inscription, and was then given a name.Since autumn 1980 the Youth has lain there waiting to be transported to the harbour town of Samos. The old museum there has been extended with a grant from Volkswagen after designs by the West Berlin architect Düttmann.

No one, however, had expected a figure of this size. Firstly the floor had to be reinforced for the figure.

In a Greek Army flat-bed trailer the Youth made the 22 kilometre journey to its new position. But it took another two years to get the pedestal and the steel, rust-proof supports ready. Plans were drawn up and discarded and drawn up again, and not until Easter this year could the masterwork be erected under the direction of the Munich restorer Bertolin.

This took a few weeks as well. The giant figure has been set up on a massive steel scaffolding. When the immense weight of the figure is considered, it is obvious how well the ancient sculptors had to work. It is possible that such a figure was first roughly hewn then erected in its alloted position and there completed.

The Kouros is as if it is in a oppressive cage in its present position in the museum. A work of this kind was intended for freedom and space, the head held high in the Samos wind.

But this does not detract from its beauty and perfection, even when the observer sees with regret that there is no face to the figure.

Then at the beginning of this year the face was found in a depth of only ten centimetres, and no one could be happier about this than the archeologist in charge Helmut Kyrieleis. Herr Bertolin will have to come again to complete the work.

So what's the sensastion? What makes it unique is that the find on Samos is the largest preserved figure from Ancient Greece. Until now there was only a torso fragment from Delos and incomplete figures from Naxos and Thasos, in which the artists had obviously made errors. The splendid, complete Sunin Kouros in the Athens National Museum is much smaller.

Two legs and a hand of the same size, for a long time exhibited at the Samos Museum, indicate that there is a second Kouros. It is possible that the two giant figures complemented each other or at least that they stood close to one another on the holy road to the sanctuary.

This brings to mind major works of Egyptian sculpture, for in Samos not only is the artistic quality amazing but the technical command as well, for the Kouros is not hewn out of a single block of stone but in parts without external supports.

The figure is a marvel of precision for the total weight rests on comparatively narrow links.

It is not easy to say what was the purpose of this votive figure. As it was some distance from the temple itself the figure is not that of a god but a votive offering. Perhaps it was a gift to the goddess Hera in gratitude for the successful conclusion of an undertaking. And certainly the farmer's wife had it right when she saw the Kouros and cried out: "My god, what a rich man the donor must have been."

Eva Jantzen

(Die Welt, 20 July 1984)

Popping a piece of pepper in the Roman pot

Pepper remains have been found in a refuse pit of the largest Roman camp in Germania, in Oberraden an der Lippe, the first ever to be discovered. Until now there had only been written evidence that pepper had been used by the Romans in their cuisine.

The spice came from India, and it was assumed that it was an exotic, costly additive for the Roman cuisine, but the find at Oberraden proves that it was used by the frontier commissariat of Legion officers.

Pepper is nowadays an everyday item. In ancient times it was mainly cultivated in India, where the pepper bushes were grown in gardens such as climbing hops are now cultivated.

There are plenty of literary references to the effect that pepper was an indispensible part of upper class Roman cooking. Regular trade brought the spice in caravans from South-East Asia to Rome.

Upper class Roman cook books mention the spice regularly, as did the celebrated glutton Apicius. Apicius was famous for discovering extravagant dishes. He lived at the time of the emperor Tiberius and took poison after squandering ten million sesteri and he saw that one day he would have to curtail his expenses.

An example of Roman cooking is this recept for filling cuttle-fish taken from the "Romans' cookbook" that Apicius used: Mix pepper with cooked brains, cover with raw egg, peppercorns and small meat balls and add the cuttle-fish. In page after page pepper is mentioned.

Until now no archaeologist had found evidence of this seasoning used in the Roman cuisine. They had to rely on literary references.

Now for the first time shells of peppercorn have been found in the refuse pit — but not in Rome itself, the centre of luxury and good living, but in the refuse pit of a military camp in then wild Germania, in Oberraden an der Lippe.

The archaeologists had two pieces of good luck.

The first was that the peppercorn remains fell into the hands of a female on the dig and not a male, and she made a beef soup — seasoned with the peppercorns. Mrs Kucan, paleo-ethnobiologist at a Lower Saxony research institute in Wilhelmshaven had previously found remains of coriander and olives, of cereals and other items from the troops' commissariat. But she was not able to identity a quantity of black shells that were not described in any textbook and that did not compare with any other botanical item.

An analysis of the tissue did not solve the problem, but the beef soup seasoned by Mrs Kucan with peppercorn did.

After having been cooked the peppercorns swelled up, the black corns floated on the soup surface. They looked exactly like the pieces of shell that had been found in the refuse pit.

Microscopic analysis confirmed that the first pepper from the Roman cuisine had been found. Two thousand years ago the shells swelled up just as the peppercorns in the modern beef soup. Apicius and all the writers of Roman cookbooks had been upheld.

What was amazing was that the pepper was found there. The legions' camp in Oberraden — over half a square kilometre in extent, the largest Roman camp in Germania — was a short-lived frontier camp.

According to Siegmar von Schnurbein (German-Roman Commission) it only existed for three years, from eleven to eight Before Christ. It was estabolished behind a warlike German tribe, the Sugambrer, Südgermanen, of the Ruhr, which was probably occupied by two legions in order to bring the Sugambrer to heel.

When that was achieved the camp was deserted and burnt down — this was a frontier camp and no place for luxury living and revlry.

It is astonishing that olives brought from Italy, were found in the camp, at least for the centurions, but it is even more astonishing that the legion officers should have for their use the Indian spice pepper. It seems that the import of pepper was not particularly expensive. Pepper was in Ancient Rome a common additive to cooking, even if every porter or lavatory cleaner did not season his porridge with pepper.

Harald Steinert

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 July 1984)